

If you're not afraid of heights, why not try a spot of paragliding next week-end?

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The debate about Wang Zhidong and his departure from Sina still rages a week after his resignation.

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Zhou is a deaf-mute sophomore at Beijing Special Educational College, a well-known institute for deaf and mute persons.

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Premier Quits Tsinghua Post

Zhu Rongji bids farewell to alma mater business school

By Yang Tao / Xia Lei

Some students even cried at the news. Students of Tsinghua University were expecting an opening lecture from Premier Zhu Rongji on June 5. But it turned out to be a fond farewell.

At the meeting, Zhu announced he would resign as president of the business school. Zhu has been president since May 1984; at that time, he was vice minister of the National Economic Committee. Zhu served 17 years as the school's president and has been premier since March 1998.

One student with the school who attended said it was scheduled as a lecture from Zhu on the domestic and international situation. Zhu still discussed the domestic and international situation, but finally his topic turned to the university.

Zhu said he would resign his post and serve as honorary chairman of the advisory committee. He added he had not done too much for the university, but his heart would remain with the faculty and students. He repeated his words from the 80th anniversary of the university: "Tsinghua University has educated me and I shall never forget." He advised students to work hard and to contribute to the community.

Li Zhiping, a general manager of a computer company in Zhongguancun, studied at Tsinghua 1985-1988 and served as a lecturer there after graduation. He had some contact with Zhu, then president of the school. He noted that as a school president, Zhu not only passed on knowledge to students, but also showed them a determined spirit. As a tutor to Ph.D students, Zhu instructed countless students in accomplishing their theses.

Fourth Ring Road Opens to Traffic

By Li Jingli

A glistening new artery now joins them all — and no traffic lights: The Asian Games Village, Zhongguancun, Fengtai High Technology Park, Beijing Economic and Technology Development Zone, Electronic City in the east suburbs, Capital Airport, Jingtong, Jingshen, Jingjintang, Jinghai, Jingshi, Badaling as of Saturday, June 9, have come together.

Municipal officials poured their praises onto all 65.3 kilometers of new orbital tarmac and concrete, especially the "Green Olympic Road" with its 100-meter-wide green sidings to connect Olympic stadiums of the not-so-distant future.

The city's third major ring road project in a decade, the Fourth Ring Road has been designed for speeds of 80-100 kilometers per hour. The city outsourced construction of this road for the first time. Fund-raising, construction, maintenance and loan paybacks were all removed from direct municipal control. A modern method with cost savings replaced an archaic system of separate fund-raising, construction and management, according to city officials. The municipal government will adopt this method for construction on Guang'an Dajie, Deshengmenwai Dajie and Xizhimenwai Dajie.

Construction of the road was an important decision for the 2008 Olympics, said Deputy Mayor Wang Guangtao.



The Fourth Ring Road has been designed for speeds of 80-100 kilometers per hour

Photo by Gao Ming

EDITOR: LIU FENG DESIGNER: PANG LEI



AOL Time Warner CEO Gerald Levin and Legend Chairman Liu Chuanzhi

Photo by Lu Beifeng

Legend Hooks up with AOL on Web

\$200 million joint venture to provide interactive services

By Yang Xiao / Zhao Hongyi

China's leading PC manufacturer and one of the world's leading interactive services providers established a joint-venture company to develop consumer interactive services for the Chinese market.

Legend Holdings will own 51 percent and America Online (AOL) 49 percent of a joint venture capitalized at about \$200 million, each party contributing some \$100 million over time.

The new venture will be operating on the basis of FM365, a child of Legend born in Hong Kong, and will provide interactive service consultations and technical support for Legend FM, a local Chinese company wholly-owned by Legend's parent company that holds an ISP permit.

Legend Chairman Liu Chuanzhi said the In-

ternet industry has a bright future and a huge potential market in China. "Never have we felt such a great change brought by the Internet and the information society derived from it in our daily life. There is no doubt that e-commerce and e-government will be fully realized.

"Certainly we can wait for another 10 years towards this target. But, if we join together and do our best, we can reach that target, maybe, within several years. Which is the choice we should take?"

"Frankly, the Internet and the Internet industry are still at a preliminary stage of development in our country. We have to accept the reality that we have no advantages on many aspects, for instance in technologies, which has become a bottleneck to our development."

"The mergers and acquisitions in China's Internet industry are an indication and reflec-

tion of the restructuring and adjustment in this industry. We are quite convinced that this industry in China will become increasingly sophisticated and Legend wants to play an important role in this process," said Liu.

"It creates a chance to combine our assets with Legend's unparalleled experience and leadership in bringing the power of the online medium to the world's largest marketplace," said AOL Time Warner CEO Gerald Levin at the press conference.

Some analysts believe the newly founded joint venture will be a threat to its competitors Microsoft, Yahoo and AOL.

Legend leads the China personal computer market. In 2000, Legend PCs accounted for 39 percent of China's consumer PC market. As a global interactive services company, AOL has more than 29 million members in 17 countries and regions around the world.



Yu Shunye
Photo by Xi Yuming

By Xi Yuming / Li Jingli

It is oft said you aren't a hero till you've climbed the Great Wall. Then what do you call a man from Dalian who tomorrow plans to leap across the Great Wall?

On a motorcycle.

Sitting backwards on his seat. Stup-endously heroic Yu Shunye will mount his

steed the wrong way on top of the 5-meter wide platform his team has constructed at Jinshanling Great Wall.

He will then accelerate up 110 meters of runway. At about 24 meters above the ground, he will take off and then...

Yu plans to fly for 18 meters over a 15-meter stretch of the Jinshanling Great Wall. The landing runway, 25 meters long, 20 meters wide, is still under construction. Hay and sponge mattresses will also be there.

Yu says he has already completed two successful simulations without wall. But weather will be an issue. Sudden gusts seem unthink-

able. And rain might reduce critical takeoff speed.

Yu and his pals on the "backward flying" project be-

lieve everything should go off without a hitch. That is, they said, unless there is some kind of an accident.



Project team members construct the platform

Photo by Zhuang Jian

Daredevil Defies Wall

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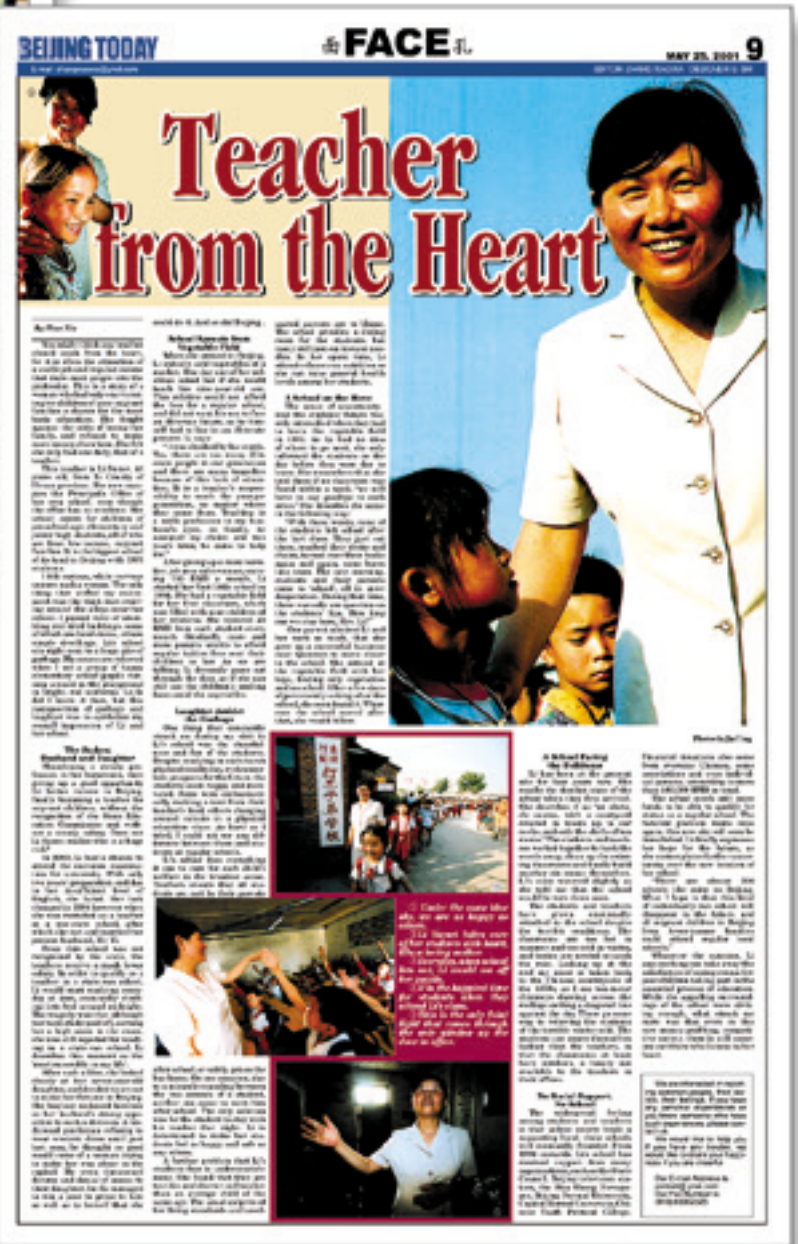


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Mergers Only Part of the Solution

More Tasks and Challenges Lie Ahead for China's Airline Industry

By Zhao Hongyi

China's airline industry initiated its second major re-organization of the past decade last week. According to the Civil Aviation Administration of China (CAAC), ten of the country's airlines, and flight related information and equipment supplying ventures are to be re-organized into 5 business operational groups. The purpose of the re-organization is to reduce costs in preparation for the increased competition from foreign airlines, resulting from China's accession to the World Trade Organization (WTO).

The detailed re-organization initiative (see the attached table) has already been released, attracting attention domestically and internationally, and leading to many heated discussions and debates.

"It is a positive step towards creating a more consolidated and stronger airline industry to meet the challenges and competition ahead, even though the five new groups still lag far behind such giants as America's United Airlines. But without this step, Chinese airlines cannot hope to compete with foreign rivals," says one industry expert.

Other analysts worry whether or not the re-organization can meet its targets. They say what is more important is better management of the existing airlines for profits and rapid growth, Air China in particular.

CAAC partially deregulated the country's domestic air transportation industry in 1988, allowing the establishment of a dozen of regional and provincial airlines, a move that was expected to stimulate the rapid development of the domestic market. But a decade later, those reforms are seen only to have generated more domestic regional air flight routes and enlarged the air transportation market scale, rather than creating a more profitable and stronger airline industry. Most of the airlines run at a loss, including Air China.

The latest re-organization has been welcomed by the



Will the reorganization mean fewer delays and less waiting?

Photo by Cheng Tieliang

New Groups in China's Air Transportation Industry

NEW GROUP	COMPANIES ACQUIRED	TOTAL ASSETS (billion yuan)	NUMBER OF AIRCRAFT	NUMBER OF ROUTES	NUMBER OF EMPLOYEES (thousand)
Air China Group	China Airlines China Southwest Airlines	56.05	118	339	20.3
China Eastern Airlines Group	China Northwestern Airlines Great Wall Airlines Yunnan Airlines	47.3	118	437	25
China Southern Airlines Group	China Northern Airlines Xinjiang Airlines	50.1	180	606	34
China Civil Aviation Supplying Services Group	China Aviation Fuel Corporation China Aviation Supplying Imp. & Exp. Corporation	10.6			
China Civil Aviation Information Services Group	China Civil Aviation Computer Information Center China Aviation Account Settlement Center	5.3			

Table by Zhao Hongyi

airlines involved. China Eastern Airlines has already purchased a number of new aircraft, showing an enthusiasm to further expand its business, together with the small airlines it has acquired.

In fact, China Eastern Airlines and Southern Airlines are the country's two most successfully managed companies and were successfully listed several years ago on overseas stock markets.

Air China is also seeking to be listed, but due to the fact that it has been running at a loss since 1998, the prospect of this occurring is quite dim. The company has named China International Trust & Investment Co. Securities as its financial adviser to manage all financial issues in its merger with some other medium and small sized airlines.

Mergers and acquisitions are only methods for the development of an enterprise. What China's airline industry needs most is scientific management, better profits and rapid development. In this regard, there are two issues that are still cause for concern.

The first is that the initiative and detailed arrangement made by CAAC, a government body, cannot guarantee a successful future of the five new groups. CAAC has been heavily involved in airlines' business management, including the establishment of new airlines, mergers and acquisitions arrangement, and the setting of air ticket prices. Most of these efforts by CAAC have either failed, or not been as successful as anticipated. Even though the mergers arranged this time have been fully consulted and discussed among those involved, such a large-scale re-organization should be decided and made by the market itself, rather than a government authority. Good will does not always lead to a good result.

Secondly, the re-organization is only a first step, if China's airline industry really expects a strong performance in the future. The five new groups need to further define clear pictures and targets of their development. As stated in the re-organization notice, the purpose of the mergers is to make China's airline industry strong enough to compete with foreign rivals on China's entering the WTO. As the reality shows, the key issue is not just to compete with foreign counterparts domestically, but more importantly, to compete successfully in the international market. An aggressive strategy is preferable to a conservative one in order to win the battle ahead, even though at present, these companies might be lacking in strength.

Economy Car Wars

Buick Sail enters the market, other car makers cut prices

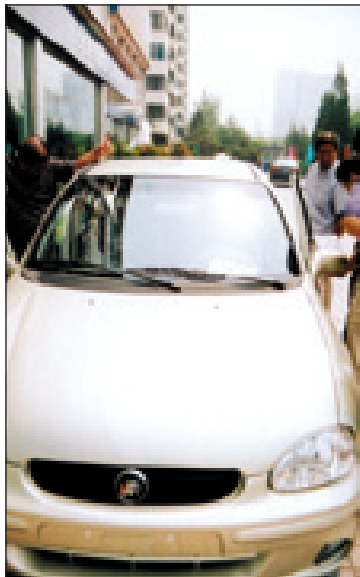
By Xia Lei

15 Buick Sails, the latest small car released by Shanghai GM cruised onto the streets of Beijing on June 8. It seems that the 8th day of a month is a lucky day for something entering the market.

Customers can find three types of Buick Sail on the market; the basic model (SL), Type I (SLX), and Type II (SLX AT). Types I and II have more extras installed than the basic model, and Type II features an automatic transmission. The prices are 100,000 yuan, 112,000 yuan and 125,000 yuan respectively, and the company has already set up 6 maintenance garages in the city.

The day was also a lucky one for car buyers. Chongqing Changan Suzuki announced a 5,000-yuan reduction of the price of its economy car, Alto. Prices of the car family will now range from 35,800 to 53,900 yuan for the top of the range Alto Happy Prince.

Tianjin Auto Group has also reduces the prices of some types



The 100,000 yuan Sail SL is proving popular with car buyers.

Photo by He Dengfeng

of car, with the biggest cut amounting to 6,000 yuan.

Other car makers are expected to follow suit as the market competition becomes more and more fierce, meaning that there will be some more good news for customers in the next half year.

China Telecom and Railcom Join Hands

China Railway Communication Co. Ltd. (CRC) Tuesday signed a framework agreement with China's No.1 fixed telecom operator, China Telecom, to co-operate in a series of fields, ranging from utilization of network resources to exchanges and personnel training.

An official from China Telecom promised that the company would provide fair inter-network access services to CRC.

Information technology an-

alysts say that the agreement paves the way for the future development of CRC, a new telecom operator set up late last year. The company now has a fixed line permit from the government and its network covers areas along existing railway lines.

Another fixed line operator, China Unicom, signed a similar agreement with China Telecom in March this year.

(Xinhua)

McDonald's New Tactics Against KFC

By Yang Xiao

Price wars between the two giant fast food franchises, McDonald's and KFC have been going on in China for years. But recently, the tactics seem to have changed. Last week, the price of McDonald's meal deals rose by 50 cents, resulting in some customer complaints.

McDonald's Northern China president Tim Lai explained the reason for the price rise, saying, "We need to improve our service, we have to keep developing continuously."

In 1992 Beijing's first McDonald's opened in Wangfujing St. At that time the price for a meal deal was over 20 yuan. 9 years later, despite the fact that wages have risen sharply since then, the price for the same meal deal, before the latest price rise, was only 16.8 yuan. Following suit, KFC cut 3 yuan for each meal deal to 17-20 yuan. In general the price in KFC is 20% higher than McDonald's.

KFC's vegetable soup is popular with Beijingers. McDonald's began selling its own vegetable soup last week. The cost is only 3 yuan, 1.50 yuan less than KFC's. Facing McDonald's aggressive measures,



While KFC is promoting its chicken-burger, McDonald's begins to sell vegetable soup.

Photo by Zhuang Jian

KFC spokesman Mr. Tian refused to comment. He said that it was none of their business.

Meanwhile, this Tuesday McDonald's made a donation to the Candle Light Project, a project to aid rural teachers. From June 12, the company will employ university students as part-time workers. McDonald's promises to donate 100 yuan to a fund for rural teachers for each student it employs.

Pyramid Sellers Face Penalties

By Xia Lei

Qiongsang Court in Hainan Province has sentenced a man to 4 years in prison and fined him 20,000 yuan for illegal pyramid selling. The conviction of Meng Chaodong is the first in China for involvement in pyramid selling. Another person, Wu Xianfeng who was involved in the same case, was also jailed for 3 years and fined 40,000 yuan. The Supreme Court announced in 1998 that those in-

volved in pyramid selling should stop such activities following the State Council's issuing of a notice forbidding pyramid selling on April 18 of that year.

Meng and Wu organized 136 people in an illegal pyramid selling organization. They obtained a total of 400,000 yuan from those people, which is unlikely to be returned.

In recent months, relevant departments in Hainan Province have caught 287 people engaged in pyramid selling schemes.



Photo by Chen Shuyi

By Yang Xiao

Lately there has been something of a flood of CEOs departing Internet companies. The biggest B2B web-site in China, MeetChina.com, lost its CEO Tong Jiawei midway through last month.

10:00 am June 6 found Tong Jiawei enjoying a leisurely coffee at Starbucks. Although it was

Bowing to Capital

Investors Push Tong Jiawei to Leave MeetChina.com

well past rush hour, he had just finished his breakfast and sat there thinking.

The reason Tong resigned is no mystery. He calls it capital's decision. "One start-up company is like a 12-month-old infant. He has just learnt how to walk, but investors want to see him running. We consider it impossible, but what can we do?" Tong illustrates his position with this metaphor. He had heavy pressure from the board, despite holding 2nd shareholder position with 10% of the company's shares, worth \$23 million. Investors want profits immediately. "Former sina.com CEO Wang Zhidong encountered the same problem I

guess".

"Start-up CEOs are quite different from professional managers." Tong says. "For example, Nokia's CEO is a professional manager. He pointed out a manager's role is to coordinate between shareholders and employees. But Oracle founder and CEO Larry Ellison aims at development of technology. Chinese start-up entrepreneurs do not have time to communicate with us. They have their own minds. Therefore Sina.com former CEO Sha Zhengzhi complained that founder Wang Zhidong seldom allows different views."

Tong Jiawei was born to a peasant family in the northeast

of China. In the early 1990's he went to Shenzhen to engage in international trade and soon became a millionaire. While his business was going well, he began to prepare to take TOEFL and GMAT tests. In 1993, China's economy went down and he received an offer from Wharton Business School to enroll for an MBA. After graduation he returned to found the Internet based international Trade Company MeetChina.com in 1997.

Now he has founded a new B2B or B2G Internet company. He and his partners have invested 5 million yuan in the company and Tong has been named CEO.

China Publishes 228 Major FDI Projects

China published a list of 228 major projects for foreign direct investment (FDI) worth a total of 340 billion U.S. dollars this week, which draws interest from investors both domestically and internationally.

The list was announced by Mr. Zhang Xiaoqiang, an official from the State Development Planning Commission, at a press conference of the Second APEC Investment Mart, Saturday June 10, in Yantai City, east China's Shandong Province.

These projects fall into infrastructure

or hi-tech fields, with one third of them to be built in the country's underdeveloped western areas, Zhang said, noting that all these projects will enjoy preferential government policies including tax reduction or exemption.

According to China's development plan for the year of 2001-2005, the country will take FDI as the key means to utilize foreign funds. The country will further improve policies and environment for foreign investment, expand the scale of the

use of foreign investment, and improve the quality of the use of foreign funds.

The official said that China will continue to encourage foreign investment in farming, hi-tech and export-oriented industries, infrastructure and basic industries; encourage foreign investors, transnationals in particular, to participate in the transformation of state companies; and push forward the opening-up of service sectors like banking, insurance, commerce, foreign trade and tourism.

China will also continue to explore new ways of using foreign funds and create a better environment for overseas investment, especially in the country's underdeveloped western areas, he noted.

According to the official, over the past two decades, China has introduced more than 350 billion US dollars of foreign funds, with over 80 percent from APEC members.

For more details, please visit:
[Http://www.sdpc.gov.cn](http://www.sdpc.gov.cn) (Xinhua)



BEDA attracts more and more foreign investors who are satisfied with the natural environment and traffic conditions here.
Photo by Zhuang Jian

Foreign Cars Pouring into Beijing

Exclusive sales agents are becoming popular

by Zhao Hongyi

The huge potential of China's market always attracts foreign investors and products. While China is entering the World Trade Organization (WTO), foreign automobile producers are rushing into this market and establishing their sales networks here. Ten automobile sales agents of 15 world famous car brands, including German Volkswagen's Audi, Swedish Volvo and American Ford, have recently set up their large scale car shops in the Beijing Economic Development Area (BEDA), a rapidly growing manufacturing and luxury living area in Yizhuang Village along the Beijing-Tianjin-Tanggu Highway southeast of the capital city.

With development of China's automobile consuming market, more and more foreign car manufacturers are establishing their exclusive sales

network in the country, according to the sales experts of South China Automobile Sales Co. Ltd., an authorized exclusive sales agent of Swedish Volvo.

An exclusive sales agent is a traditional and sophisticated retailing format in developed countries and is now spreading rapidly in China. The most important function and advantage of an exclusive sales agent is to link the manufacturers and consumers directly, reducing the unnecessary interim charges caused in the process of marketing. In addition, an exclusive sales agent is not only selling new cars, which accounts for a maximum of 40 percent. The other 60 percent is occupied by services, maintenance, display and second-hand cars sales. On average, an exclusive sales agent in Germany will sell about 2-3 used cars to each new one. Customers can also made all necessary arrangements

for purchasing loans at the site. Due to the existing unreasonable administrative framework, the traditional and sophisticated format of an automobile exclusive sales agent has not been promoted in China before now.

Located in the Beijing Economic Development Zone, Beijing Jingkai International Automobile Science & Technology Business Center will be one of the four largest automobile transaction markets in the city, according to the introduction by Mr. Yang Hongzhen, vice president of the Beijing Jingkai. The 460,000 square meter market in BEDA will collect most of the world famous brands of car. Other facilities will also be set up here in the next few years, including an automobile related museum, a theme park, a comprehensive automobile service center, an information center, an inspection center, a club and a living apartment tower.

Huaxia to Collect Money and Recruit Talents Abroad



Dr. Lu Yucheng, Chairman of Huaxia Bank.

By Zhao Hongyi

China's Huaxia Bank, one of the 10 nationwide shareholding commercial banks, is planning a domestic A-share listing of 400-500 million shares this year, and further overseas listings in the next three to four years, including issuing H shares in Hong Kong and N shares in New York, according to the Dr. Lu Yucheng, Chairman of the Bank.

"Foreign competition brought by China's WTO accession is forcing us to speed up renovation of products and management as well," said Lu. The planned listing will increase the bank's cash flow and develop its online business and branch network.

To prepare for the expansion, the Beijing-based bank will invite one or two world-famous foreign banks to be its strategic investors. The foreign owned stakes can be as much as 25 per cent of the bank. Currently, Huaxia's A-share IPO (initial public offering) preparations are going smoothly at present stage.

The bank is planning to recruit a foreigner to act as its vice-president. Also, more overseas talents will be recruited as senior consultants or managers for the bank's overseas business development and online banking construction.

Earlier this year, Chinese Premier Zhu Rongji made remarks advising Chinese financial institutions to absorb more foreign talents to take up senior posts and to upgrade management and efficiency in the sector. It seems like a reflection to this suggestion.

The nine year old bank has experienced a rapid growth. By the end of last year, its total assets were nearly 95 billion yuan (US\$11 billion). The profit of the bank for last year reached 755 million yuan (US\$91 million), up 41 per cent from 1999. Its capital profitability stood at 21.3 per cent and its non-performing loan rate was only 5.33 per cent, well below the average level in China.



The bank predicted 150 billion yuan (US\$18 billion) of total assets and a 1 billion yuan (US\$120 million) profit this year. Photo by Zhuang Jian

UK Loss Adjuster Sets Up Beijing Office

GAB Robins, one of the world's largest loss-adjusting firms, set up a representative office in Beijing last Friday, marking the first foreign insurance intermediary to enter the Chinese market.

Loss adjusting is still a relatively new insurance concept for many Chinese, he said. He added that insurers are able to benefit from lower operational costs and clear market segmentation with the help of loss adjusting companies.

GAB Robins has been at the forefront of loss adjusting business for 130 years.

China's huge insurance market is growing at an annual rate of 35 percent, but the development of the intermediary market is rather slow, which has become a "bottleneck" for the sustainable growth of the nation's insurance industry.

Sources from the CIRC disclosed that since 2000, China has established four loss-adjusting firms, and another one is to be set up soon. By 2000, China had around 800 loss adjusters, 69 of which are working in the capital city.

Experts also noted that related laws and regulations should be introduced as well to facilitate the establishment of a unified loss-adjusting regime.

(Xinhua)

Three Priorities Set for Environmental Industrial Development

By Zhao Hongyi

Environmental technology & equipment, materials, and chemical medications will be the three priorities for the development of the environmental industry in China, according to resources from the State Economic & Trade Commission (SETC).

SETC, together with the State Economic Planning Commission, Ministry of Finance and other central government agencies, drafted and promulgated a joint policy recommendation, namely "Suggestions on Accelerating the Development of National Environmental Industry". The release of the Suggestions is part of the efforts by the central government to promote a healthy and rapid development of the national environmental industry, to better protect national resources and environment, and to set up a new threshold for the nation's economic growth.

Policy recommendations made include: further accelerating the pace of industrial restructuring and upgrading of the nation's environmental industry, upgrading the productive equipment and facilities of the nation's environmental industry; securing a more unified and open market for environmental products etc.

Currently, there are more than 10,000 enterprises and entities involved in the industry with a total number of employees over 1.8 million. In the year of 2000, the total production of the industry exceeded 108 billion yuan, among which environment protection related products exceeded 30 billion yuan, comprehensive use of natural resources occupied 68 billion yuan and environment related services reached 10 billion yuan. It is expected that by 2005, the total production volume of this industry will reach 200 billion yuan, with an average annual growth over 15%. The major sectors within this industry include: environmental protection related equipment and facilities (55 billion yuan), comprehensive use of natural resources (95 billion yuan) and environment related services (50 billion yuan).

Nine Plots Opened for Bidding in Zhongguancun

Profile: Zhongguancun Science Park

Zhongguancun Science Park, officially called Beijing Science & Technology Park, is the first state-level high-tech development zone, approved by the State Council in May 1988. It is nationally the largest integrated area of intellectual resources, human resources and information resources.

The Zhongguancun Science Park consists of five zones: Haidian Zone with an area of 1.8 square kilometers, Fengtai Zone is in Fengtai District down south of Beijing and Changping Zone in Changping District up north of Beijing. Both Fengtai Zone and Changping Zone covers an area of 5 square kilometers respectively. Yizhuang Zone covers an area of 7 square kilometers. The Electronics City, with a projected area of 0.5 square kilometers, is at the Jiuxianqiao area, Notheastern part of Beijing.

The above-mentioned five zones formed a vigorous high-tech industry zone with special features along the Fourth Ring Road of Beijing.

Zhongguancun Science Park is an area with a high concentration of intellectual resources.

The construction of the park has been under way for several years. In 2002, the building projects in the West Zone will go into full swing, and the area under construction will account for more than 80% of the total construction scale. By 2003, part of the buildings will be completed and put into use.



An exciting perspective of the west zone of Zhongguancun Science Park in Haidian District.

Picture by Lou Lihua

By Zhao Hongyi

The last 9 plots in the West Zone of Zhongguancun Science Park have been opened up for bidding. It is the second auction of its type and will be focused on attracting both domestic and foreign hi-tech enterprises, financial and other intermediary ventures serving hi-tech enterprises, as well as investors and

developers involved in the construction and development of public infrastructure and environment protection facilities. Details of the auction invitation have been published in major papers like Beijing Daily.

The West Zone is the core part of Zhongguancun Science Park, with an area of 51.44 hectares. It is the window for demonstrating the future management, research and development,

products and technologies of high-tech industry.

According to the development plan, it will be home to a large number of intermediary bodies serving the development of the high-tech industry, such as law firms, accounting firms, investment management and consulting companies, etc. It will also be the commercial center like shopping, leisure for Zhongguancun Science Park as a whole.

The area was divided into 25 plots among which five will be for public green belts and twenty for sale. In the first open land uses tender, held in 2000, 8 businesses were successful in buying the 11 pieces of land prepared by the Beijing Science & Technology Park Construction Co. Ltd. (BSCC).

The deadline for open tendering is October 20, 2001.

For more information, please visit:
Web address of the Administrative Committee of Zhongguancun Science Park: <http://www.zgc.gov.cn>

Web address of Beijing Science & Technology Park Construction Co. Ltd. (BSCC): <http://www.bscc-bj.com>

Divorcees Decide Their Lucky Days

Couples choose their date in court

By Zhao Men-tie, Liu Zhen /Su Wei

According to Chinese tradition, the date of one's wedding should be a lucky day, such as 6th, 8th, 16th and the like, for these numbers in Chinese are homonyms for smooth going or making a fortune. Nowadays, more and more divorces are handled on these days also.

Mr. Zhang and Ms. Cao got married on August 8th, 1991, for they both considered it was a propitious day and would represent the happy life after the wedding. However, life after the wedding was not as good as they expected and trivial disputes often led to major quarrels. They realized that the gap was too big and it was impossible for them to live together. After careful consideration, they both calmly went to the local court to get divorced on June 6th this year, which is also considered a lucky date due to the Chinese meaning of double six, that is, everything is going smoothly.

On June 6th, 15 divorces based on mutual agreement were handled in the local court in Xicheng District. Among the fifteen cases, there were four couples who deliberately chose that special day in the hope of being happy in the future upon the ending of the painful experience caused by the divorce. According to judges who preside over such cases, people's attitudes have changed in recent years. It was once thought that divorce meant the beginning of an unhappy life. Now people have a cooler attitude toward divorce, and believe they will find a new life and new opportunities for happiness. In order to seek the best possible luck, they prefer to choose a traditional Chinese good day to mark the date.

“Bell of Friendship” Arrives at Museum



Photo by Su Nan

By Su Nan

The Great Bell Temple Ancient Bell Museum is the recipient of a Bell of Friendship, symbolizing the international friendship of bell culture between Europe and China.

Bell culture exchange between Europe and China started in 1996. And from November 2000 to February 2001, the “Chinese Ancient Bell Exhibition” was held in Paris, France. To further develop friendly relations between two countries, 23 European bell professionals from the European Bell Institution and the French Bell Manufacturing Company presented a “Bell of Friendship” to China with their names inscribed at the base of the bell. These professionals visited Beijing's Great Bell Temple Ancient Bell Museum in 1999.

The gift, symbolizing the cultural exchange between western and eastern countries, and is the fourth ‘Bell of Friendship’ in the Bell Museum, following those from Italy, New Zealand and Mexico.

Consultants Earn Business Certificates

by Su Wei

Ms. Zhang, 30, is enrolled in preparatory classes held by the Beijing Consultant Association for the World Business Scheme Association (WBSA) Exam.

Business counselors are seeking to obtain the international certificate of WBSA. There are three levels of WBSA certificate, WBSA Business Counselor (advanced), Assistant WBSA business counselor (intermediate) and enterprise counselor (elementary).

WBSA is a world organization focusing on the discovery, cultivation and development of both specialized and all-round business counselors. In North America and Europe, departmental managers, general managers, economists and directors of enterprises often hold WBSA certificates. The authenticated system of WBSA was first introduced to China in October 2000.

There are two ways to be qualified. One is to be authenticated by case analysis, in other words, the applicant shall hand in the cases that he or she has handled or co-handled. The authentication organization will then decide whether these meet the criteria or not. The other is to sit the exam held by the WBSA organization. The exam, covering business consultations theory and practice, is held twice a year in China; with the next one taking place this July.

Mr. Liu, one of the students of the third session training held by the Beijing Consultant Association says the WBSA certificate is important for finding a job in business and also for undertaking a new business consultations project.



Justin Hornberger (second from left) and family display his quilt.
Photo by Cui Hao

American Student Finds Second Home

By Cheng Jie /Su Nan

“My name is Ding Wukong,” A 17-year-old American student introduces himself. Justin Hornberger is his real name, but he is proud to be called Wukong — the name of the well-known monkey king in Chinese folklore.

Ding Wukong is a student at SYA secondary school in the United States. He and a group of 46 American students came to China at the end of August last year, to further their language studies at the overseas branch of the No. 2 High School Attached to Beijing Normal University. Each student is living with a local Chinese family during their stay. Ding Wukong, therefore has a Chinese dad — Mr. Ding, a beautiful

Chinese mom and a Chinese younger brother. The name Ding Wukong was given by his new brother. The atmosphere of his Chinese family is very happy and relaxed. Every week he calls his family in America and tells them he is well in China.

Wukong had studied Chinese for 2 years in the U.S. Before he came here, he imagined China to be poor and dirty, and he studied Chinese just for fun. However, after studying and living in China for 8 months, his Chinese has sharply improved, and he has become something of an old China hand. During school holidays, Wukong has traveled to interesting places with his school, including Shanghai, Nanjing, Yan'an, and Pingyao. Accordingly, his view of China has changed considerably.

Wukong had one week of classes with other Chinese students in the

middle of May because of the excellent progress he had made. During that time, he formed his own opinion about the education system in China. He wrote in his diary that, “I don't think the system of Chinese education is as good as that in the U.S. There, a good student can skip a grade however, in China, no matter how smart the student, this is rarely possible.”

The independence of American children has made a deep impression on Mr. Ding, Wukong's Chinese dad. Before coming to China, Wukong had gained almost 8 years part-time working experience, since he was 8. When he arrived in China, he showed his stocky arm to his Chinese family and wanted to find a part time job here, even as a laborer. Afterward, Mr. Ding found a job for him, as an oral English teacher for a

school run by local people.

Wukong said he didn't miss his American family at all since he came to China. He enjoys Chinese food, especially the dumplings made by his “mom”. Sometimes he buys some western food in the supermarket and cooks it for himself if he misses home cooking.

As Wukong has almost concluded his Chinese studies, his parents and sister made a special trip to China to meet Wukong's Chinese dad and mom, bringing a precious memento with them, a brightly colored patchwork quilt made by his mom. At the center of the quilt is embroidered a letter of thanks from Wukong's American family, “may this quilt warm the memories you share with Justin and our deepest appreciation for making him so very welcome in your home! —the Hornberger Family.”

Beijing Students Tour Australia

By Su Nan

With the summer vacation drawing near, many Beijing students are preparing to head to Australia on “education tours”. The tours normally last to weeks, and besides sightseeing in the country, students will spend nearly 20 hours study with local students.

These rather novel tours have attracted many people since their inception last year. At the Fuxingmen business department of CITS head office, the reporter saw many parents coming to register or seek consultations. Sales manager Li Dan said the number of registrations had increased considerably on last year's.

The Beijing No.8 middle school has sent two groups of students on education tours since last year. The dean of studies, Mr. Pan said, “The tours play a positive role in boosting students' communication

skills, broadening their outlook, and gives them the opportunity to experience the study environment of local students. In a certain sense, the education tour may allow the students to find out where they fall short compared with overseas students. Thus, it may help to improve their future study.”

Assistant dean of the Beijing Language and Culture University, Mr. Zhuo said, “I am in favor of the education tours. While enjoying the wonderful sights, the students may experience different cultures, thereby broadening their horizons. They can also use their time to practice English and absorb something new which they might not learn from textbooks.”

Mr Zhuo also warned parents to choose tourism company with caution. He advised selecting reputable and qualified tourism companies, even if it meant spending a little more money.

Air France Crews Study Chinese

By Su Nan

Air France sent their first 13 cabin crews to China on June 11 for a one-week language course at the Beijing Language & Culture University (BLCU).

The course is part of the “In-flight Asia” project under which the company endeavors to keep up with the demands of in-flight service for its increasing number of Asian clients. The 13 cabin crews, who have had at least one year Chinese training already, are taking part in the course to further improve their Chinese language abilities.

BLCU arranged the intensive training program, which covers many areas, from basic conversations on the plane, to Chinese culture, calligraphy, even some local Beijing songs.

All the crews have enjoyed their training programs so far. One of the participants, Mr. Bang, said he felt the program was interesting and



French cabin crews in the penmanship class

meaningful. He liked it very much, particularly as he is a French citizen of Chinese origin. Another participant, Gilbert was very proud to show how he could write his new Chinese name. He explained that, “I like horses, so my surname is 马 (horse), and my first and last name combine together is 认真 (attentive), because I would like to be a serious person.”

Official Surrenders to Court Taking His Toilet with Him



By Yang Yonghui /Wei Feng

According to *Beijing Youth Daily*, 49-year old Mr Hu, a bureau-level senior official went to Haidian District Court on the morning of June 5 to confess his crime of embezzling one million yuan, accompanied by his elder sister.

According to the prosecutor in charge of the case, Hu had come to the atten-

tion of the prosecutor's office two years ago. From May to October 1997, under the pretence of drawing high-rate interest by lending unit funds, he defrauded a total of 1.65 million yuan, by forging signatures and loan agreements and other means. Hu deposited all this money into his cohabiting mistress's stock account and began stock trading. He returned 1.26 million yuan in 1998 and then disappeared.

Hu says at the end of 1998, he fled

to Guangzhou to look for the person who had taken the money, but failed. When he returned to Beijing, he became so anxious that he developed a cerebral thrombosis, and became unable to speak or move about. After receiving treatment in a hospital, he decided to surrender himself to the court.

Not only did he take with him his bedclothes and daily necessities, but also his portable toilet. The trial is still underway.

Photo by Yang Yonghui



A series of stamps recording Chinese stars' supporting bid for 2008 Olympics were published on June, 12. Famous cross-talk performer Jiang Kun showed correspondents “That's me!”

By Fan Jiwen

By Sun Yu/Duan Xiao Dong

The case of a 29-year-old virgin raped by a man on August 15, 1998 has fostered debate about a separate legal right to chastity.

The man, under the alias "Liu Fei", was sentenced to 12 years' imprisonment, while the woman, going by the alias "Huang Xia" says she has postponed all thoughts of romance or married life. After the police rescued her from the man's residence, it was confirmed by medical examination Huang had suffered serious physical and emotional trauma. Huang lost her virginity in the rape, and claimed 450,000 yuan compensation from the rapist in a separate civil suit. The court of first instance ruled 80,000 yuan, but both parties appealed.

On May 21, 2001, the final judgment of the case opened in Shenzhen City Intermediate Court. As the first rape-related case nationwide concerning "chastity rights", it drew interest and debate among the general public. There is no provision in Chinese law clearly defining chastity rights. Legal experts offer their opinions below on the case.

1. Should chastity be an independent civil right?

Zhou Ji, lawyer, Xin Shi Da Law Firm: The term "chastity right" is saturated with feudalistic implications, and so it is better not made eligible for separate legal status. The term is not clearly defined, and so inappropriate in a modern society. In this case, it's the right to not be forced into sex, the right to ones' health and the right to ones' life, as well as the right to ones' reputation and liberty that are infringed upon. The



Liu Jinghua



Ma Qiang



Tong Qiang

Chastity Right Stirs Debate



Zhou Ji



Jia Xiaogang

current law has enough provisions than can be applied to the mentioned case, and so a separate term regarding chastity is unnecessary.

Ma Qiang, doctor of law, Beijing Second Intermediate People's Court judge: A chastity right is primarily a spiritual right pertaining to human dignity, and should not be included in the categories of life and health rights. There are well-defined provisions regarding this right in German Civil Law, as well as in Taiwanese and Japanese law. But China still lacks such a definition. I stand for

an independent chastity right within the law.

Tong Qiang, assistant professor of Peking University Law School: No matter what it is called, a chastity right has independent value in legal practice. It is evidently so in the discussed case.

2. How can one define a chastity right?

Liu Jinghua, deputy presiding judge of Criminal Trial Court No. 1 Beijing High Court: There are two parts to chastity rights involved in this case: the right to be protected from sexual assault on the part of women, and the

right to be protected from unwilling first sexual intercourse. Among new provisions in Chinese law, five categories could be applied to chastity rights. They are the rights of health, physical well-being, reputation, human dignity and personal freedom.

Jia Xiaogang, chief prosecutor for Administrative Procuratorate, Supreme People's Procuratorate: A chastity right is in effect the right to choose chastity. Everyone has an inalienable right to be chaste in his or her own sexual behavior.

Ma: A chastity right should

not be confined to first-intercourse cases. Any forced sexual behavior against the concerned agent's consent should be deemed an infringement on the other's chastity right.

3. Was the plaintiff's reputation truly harmed?

Zhou: If she feels that her social reputation has been downgraded, then she is right to complain about the harm to her reputation.

Liu: If the case is publicized not by the criminal, but by the lawsuit, the media or some witnesses, it is hard to say her reputation is in effect harmed by the criminal.

Ma: In this case, it is the victim's sense of self-worth that has been significantly downgraded, but could we say her social status has indeed been harmed? Hardly.

Tong: According to normal social ethics, the victim's social reputation could not be harmed by the fact that she was raped. Society normally understands, supports and sympathizes with such a victim.

4. Is the 450,000 yuan compensation request too much?

Zhou: To put an upper limit on such compensation requests is not justifiable. I think the victim's request is reasonable.

Ma: For a single woman, the trauma could last a lifetime. That's my personal view.

Tong: An objective and quantitative system of legal compensation must be established, and foreign examples could provide useful references. The important thing is to set up a system of different tiers of measurable damage done to the victim, though it is not the same as suffering material losses.

SOUND BITES



Shi Guangsheng
Minister of Foreign Trade and Economic Cooperation at the advanced forum of entrepreneurs of the 2nd APEC Investment Trade Fair on June 9 in Yantai, China

Developing Country

China must adopt the identity of a developing country entering WTO, and this is a consistent principle China always holds.

China's going into the WTO has attracted the attention of the whole world. Since 1986, China has been making unremitting efforts to make herself enter the multilateral trade system of the world. Hence China has undergone 15 years of talks for this unprecedented event. By this, China has shown to the world her firm determination and strong confidence that China will stick to the policies of opening to the outside, strengthening international economic and trade cooperation and participating in economic globalization. China is a responsible country and after the entry into the WTO, China will strictly obey the rules and norms of the WTO, fulfilling the promise that China has made.

China investment

China is attractive for investment. The next 5 to 10 years will be significant to China's further opening to the outside world, as well as China's economy and society. Specifically, China will go on sticking to the active, reasonable and efficient investment policies, improving investment surroundings and exploring positive methods, such as purchase, merger, investment funds and securities, to lure foreign capital.

China will widely develop opening areas including banks, insurance, telecom, trade and tourism, and also the middle-western areas.

Steady Opening Policy

China's economic growth rate over the next five years will be 7 percent, and GNP by 2005 will amount to 1.25 thousand billion yuan. Because of this, China's development will surely be a chance for the world's industrial and commerce circles to invest in China.

By a rough estimate for 2001-2005, China will import equipment, technologies and goods to the value of \$1,400 billion. The Chinese government has always paid attention to economic and technological cooperation with other countries. China hopes to expand investment and investment projects from international industrial and commerce circles and a long-term stable relationship with them as well.

(Wei Feng)

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Northwest Airlines website screenshot showing flight information and booking options.

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Telecom Fee Adjusted

Are consumers better or worse off than before?



Picture by Lao du

By Wei Feng

At the beginning of 2001, the Ministry of Information Industry and other departments jointly announced a plan to adjust telecom fees. Implementation of these fee adjustments started from March 21. The changes have affected people from all circles of society, and remain a topic of hot debate.

In order to find out how people feel about the telecom fee changes, whether they have affected the way in which people utilize telecom services, and if so, how, Beijing Youth Daily engaged Data-sea Marketing Research Group to carry out a survey on the issue. The survey, entitled "telecom consumers hot's pot" sampled 630 people in the three cities of Beijing, Shanghai and Guangzhou.

Fixed phones mainly for local calls

The survey found that among the investigated families in the three cities of Beijing, Shanghai and Guangzhou, 14.7% owned more than two fixed phones (two different phone numbers).

When questioned about the use of the fixed phones, 76.4% said they "mostly make local calls but occasionally make long-dis-

tance calls", while 19.3% use the fixed telephones "almost equally to make local calls or long-distance calls".

As a result, it can be seen that the main use of fixed phones is to make local calls, rather than long-distance calls.

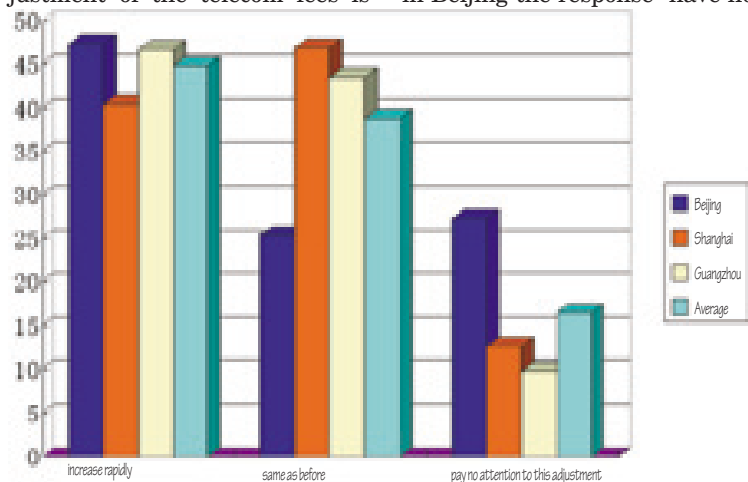
So we can see why most people are sensitive about the fee change for local calls. Under the new plan, the cost of local fees has increased significantly. While the officials maintain the changes will benefit customers, the customers complain that they are paying more than before. Therefore, many believe that the adjustment of the telecom fees is

no more than a price hike in disguise.

44.8% say monthly telecom charges are higher than before

44.8% of those surveyed say the monthly family telephone charges, including those for fixed phones, mobile phones and the Internet, have clearly increased after the adjustment of the fees.

To this question, the three cities give slightly different responses. In Shanghai and Guangzhou, the number of those who said, "the fees are much the same as before" were higher than in Beijing; while in Beijing the response "have not



How is the telecom fees compared with before?

paid attention to this" was higher than in Shanghai and Guangzhou.

The influence of fee adjustments on consumer's costs and consumption

The adjustment of the telecom fees has had a different influence on the time spent making local phone calls, long-distance calls and on the Internet. Comparatively, local phone calls have been more affected than the other two, because people make local calls more frequently.

In fact, the effect of the fee adjustments on the way people make local and long-distance calls and use the Internet is quite obvious. From the survey, 65.8% will "talk for shorter periods during local calls". Meanwhile, owing to the reduction of Internet and long-distance fees, time spent on the Internet will increase (59.3%), as will that spent making long-distance calls (51.3%).

However, it should be noted that using the Internet and making long-distance calls are not daily activities for most people, while making local phones most certainly are. In other words, the fee changes have added to the burden of some families.

Effects on time spent on the phone and online

To the statement "due to the comparative increase of the prices in local calls, long talks have become short ones"

78.0% of those surveyed in Guangzhou agreed, almost 20% more than in Beijing. Meanwhile in Shanghai, the number of those who disagreed with the statement (30.0%) was higher than in Beijing and Guangzhou. The number of those who responded, "I don't care" was higher in Beijing than in Shanghai and Guangzhou.

To the statement "Internet fees have declined, time spent on the Internet will be longer"

Responses from people in the three cities were much the same. This suggests that dedicated netizens don't care about the fees. Likewise, casual Internet users won't care much either, because they don't regard the Internet as an integral part of their life. Higher or lower fees make little difference to them.

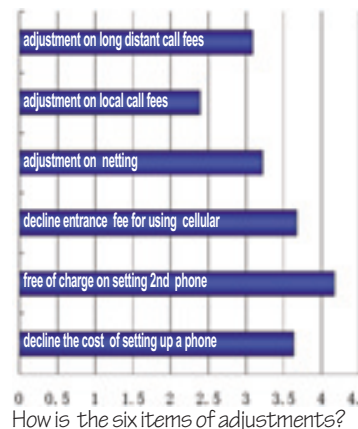


Table by Tian Ye

To the statement "because of the decline in long-distance charges, more time will be spent making such calls"

The people in the three different cities responded differently. Many more people in Shanghai and Guangzhou agreed with the statement than in Beijing, while the number who said the changes wouldn't affect them, was greater in Beijing and Shanghai, than in Guangzhou.

Monthly telecom fees no more than 100 yuan for 25.6%

In regard to the total cost of family's telecom fees, including fixed phones, mobile phones and the Internet, 25.6% of those surveyed paid less than 100 yuan every month; while 19.5% paid between 300 and 500 yuan per month.

Between the three cities, there was a sharp contrast in the monthly telecom charges. For example, in Shanghai and Beijing, monthly charges of less than 100 yuan accounted for the largest group, with 37.1% and 26.3% respectively. However in Guangzhou, the monthly charges between 201 and 500 yuan were the highest with 25.2%, which may have a close relation with the high number of long-distance calls people from Guangzhou made.

Differences in salaries also affected the amount people spent on telecom related activities. Of the families surveyed with an average monthly salary of 1,500 yuan or less, 67.1% spent less than 100 yuan on telecom. But of the families with a monthly salary of 6,000 yuan or more, 34.9% spend over 500 yuan.

Weekly Survey

60% of Elderly Keen to Get on Line

A survey of people over 60 years old shows 60% are eager to learn how to use a computer and the Internet, and 22% have already made a start. Over 70% believe the computer will put them in closer contact and give them a better understanding of the world. More than 40% said the computer would bring them closer to their children.

As to the barriers to computer learning, half the old people thought it was the lack of English, while 40% thought it was the difficulty of operating the computer. About one-third did not have a computer at home and were not able to afford one.

Expenses of Marriage as High as 23,000 HK Dollars

According to an investigation by Hong Kong Baptist University and Guangdong Lingnan University, 91 couples in Hong Kong who got married between 1999 to 2000, paid an average of 23,000 HK dollars on wedding expenses.

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By Xiao Rong

Sina.com, one of the leading web portals in China, announced on June 3 from Sunnyvale, California, its headquarter, that Wang Zhidong, its former president, Chief Executive Officer and director, resigned. Taking Wang's CEO spot and his seat on the company's board of directors will be Mao Daolin, currently Sina's chief operating officer. The company's new president will be Wang Yan, general manager of China operations.

The astonishing news, which was released by Sina, well-known for its up-to-the-minutes and comprehensive news, has shaken the internet industry across the nation. Almost everyone who knows Wang Zhidong showed great astonishment and regret to his resignation. Various comments and speculation on Wang Zhidong, Sina and even Chinese Internet industry has aroused endless disputes in the past one week.

Wang Rejects China.com Overtures

According to a top executive at Sina and a former employee with the company, the removal of Mr. Wang was engendered by his longtime opposition to a merger or acquisition that other executives saw as inevitable. The board of directors condemned Wang for his passivity to various opportunities of consolidation, especially in the case of merging with Hong Kong-based China.com Corp., an Internet group that has AOL as a partner in Hong Kong.

Created in March 1999, Sina.com is a merger between two of the world's largest Chinese Web sites --- SinaNet.com of

Sunnyvale, California and Stone Rich Sight Information Technology Company Ltd. (SRS) of Beijing. It's Wang Zhidong who has made Sina, a small internet company of Zhong Guancun, into the largest Internet media and services company for Chinese communities worldwide.

As some top leaders of Sina said, Wang Zhidong is one of the biggest barrier for Sina's further consolidation. Wang even despised the rumors of Sina's merging with China.com. He made a metaphor that China.com is like a young boy courting a beautiful girl. But he said the chaser must have self-knowledge. Being the founder and the largest personal share-holders of Sina, Wang Zhidong has always been saying NO to the proposal of Sina's consolidation with China.com. What he favoured more was to cooperate with China.com equally by way of the replacement of stock rights. Unfortunately, however, those who agreed with Sina's being bought out by China.com overwhelmed.

When asked about whether Sina will consolidate with China.com and the relation between the consolidation and Wang's resignation, Mao Daolin, the new CEO, declined any comment. On the press conference

held on June 7, the new management team declared that any story about Sina and China.com is totally rumors. Mao also said that Sina will not deny the possibility of buying out, being bought out or consolidation. The key point is to try to enlarge the market share. Just like Wang Zhidong, Mao also requires that the consolidation bring Sina a breakthrough and provide supplementary resources.

"One of the most popular views now is the way of P2P (Path to Profitability). A successful consolidation is to shorten the time limit of P2P by integrating resources. Of course, on the basis of the current situation, we will make good use of Sina's advantages and strength to pursue cooperations and enlarge Sina's brand name as possible as we can."

Besides Sina, several leading Chinese web portals have been planning to introduce new capitals from home and abroad, leading to speculation that the Chinese web portals might eventually merge or be bought out by one of the global portal players. NetEase.com, one of the country's three largest portals, has been looking for a buyer for months, holding talks with both AOL and Legend as well as with i-Cable Communications

about \$2, only one tenth of the releasing price. Therefore, it's rather difficult to survive totally by themselves. There are only three choices before CEOs of these companies: to be bought out by more powerful companies to survive longer; to cooperate with traditional enterprises quickly; to add certain practical products.

Of the three possible choices, most of the web portals are considering the possibility of being bought out by bigger companies. But Wang Zhidong has always been pursuing a suitable way for Sina and Chinese Internet Industry. He once wrote in an article: "There are too much American styles in Chinese Internet industry. But most of the companies haven't truly learn the essence of the American way. We should learn from traditions so that Sina can easily integrate with traditional industries. What we are pursuing is a rational and practical way."

A web portal can gain profit by consolidating and even selling itself, but what for the development of the Internet industry of a nation? This question may be what Wang Zhidong has always been thinking about. The venture capital, however, don't give him much time.

on the stage, the capital will not appear. Only when the sportsmen have made a wrong judgement, will the capital speak out for the sake of itself and more investors. What matters most is the communication between the management team and the board of directors."

Walden International Investment Group, of which Mr. Mao was the former vice-president, has played a significant role in Sina's development. As a venture capital firm, Walden has invested at least 1.6 million dollars in Sina. According to Sina's highest stock price on Nasdaq, the stock held by Walden amounted to 3 billion dollars. Restricted by the period of selling ban, however, Walden has lost almost 50% of its stocks.

For Sina, the departure of its high-profile founder may mark the transition to a more professional stage of development. "Zhidong has contributed significantly towards the success of Sina. It is with regret that Zhidong has decided to pursue his personal interests outside of Sina. We thank him for his outstanding services and wish him well in his future endeavors," said Daniel Chiang, chairman of Sina's board of directors. "Mao Daolin has been a key contributor to the success of the com-



Wang attends the Fortune Forum as Sina's CEO only last month Photo by Chen Tieliang

pany way of earning money. In addition, they lack true knowledge of situations in China or are unwilling to acknowledge the realities in China even though they have certain understandings."

Wang Zhidong also had such feelings before. "Most technical personnel have bad luck because they don't know how to manage and administrate an enterprise." Having been a programmer for over five years, Wang finally decided to create a wonderful environment for himself.

However, Wang Zhidong

Where to now for Sina? Life after Wang Zhidong

Ltd. And Jade Bird of Peking University has bought 10% of Sohu.com's overseas shares.

On June 11, America Online Inc., the world's biggest Internet-service provider and Legend Holdings Ltd., the largest Chinese computer maker, announced in Beijing that they will contribute \$100 million each to set up a new company that will develop interactive services targeted at Chinese consumers. The deal creates a mammoth rival to China's intensely competitive Internet portals and could hasten consolidation among them.

Professor Sun Jian from Science and Technology University of China said that the simple web portals must follow the way of intergrating with some entities to ensure profitabilities. "The stock price of the three web portals on Nasdaq is

NO PROFIT NO POSITION

Wang Zhidong's resignation has made "Capital Will" one of the most popular word online in the past one week. Although the case of Sina may prove to be the fight for authorities between top leaders, Wang's silence showed that his quitting was a forced action. Nobody could imagine that the founder of the most well-known web portals could lose his job overnight. But the principle of the market is: No profit, no position.

Boasting the price of \$58 a share last year, Sina has seen its shares plunge over the past year due to falling online advertising revenues, lower corporate spending and an e-commerce market that never quite took off in Asia. Under such circumstances, the capital can only kick out Wang Zhidong for his improper management.

The day after Wang's resignation, Sina's shares on Nasdaq rose to \$1.85, up 6.32%, ranking the first among the six Chinese Conceptual Shares. Such was the choice of the capital.

According to the top leaders of 263.com, personal ambitions should be in accordance with group interests. "When the two sides are in conflict, someone will have to sacrifice. Although what happened in Sina went to extremes to a certain extent, it's still reasonable. No matter the outcome is correct or not, at least it's through proper ways."

Mr. Mao, Sina's new CEO, said in a press conference on June 7: "The main reason for their investment is the confidence to the management team. Even though there may be certain failures, the investors will usually give you another 3 or 4 months to give them another budget. I think the venture capital is the backstage coach, while the administrative team is the sportsmen who really participate in the competition. If the sportsmen have done an excellent job

pany in the past several years. With him as the leader of the new management team, we have full confidence that Sina will be able to capitalize on its leadership position and move onto the next level of growth and excellence."

For most of the Sina fans, however, the uncerecermonious removal of Wang Zhidong means a great loss to Sina. "Wang Zhidong is an entrepreneur, but he is more like a symbol. The story of Wang Zhidong, Zhang Chaoyang (founder of Sohu.com) and Ding Lei (founder of NetEase.com) have made an example of realizing one's dreams through perseverance and hardworking," said one of the net fans.

Hero or not, Wang Zhidong has left Sina. But will Sina be totally different without Wang Zhidong?

Founder = Successful CEO?

At the beginning of 2000, when Ding Lei said good-bye to the post of CEO of NetEase.com, a web site named "Chinese Gentlemen" released an article on its homepage, joking that "Linguists predicted that the name of 'CEO' will soon be a derogatory term."

So is the current situation in China, although not so severely. With the predicament of the Internet companies home and abroad, many CEOs has been kicked out of or resigned from management teams. According to a report from Challenger Gray and Christmas Inc., a famous American job-hunting company, there are altogether 815 CEOs who quit from August, 2000 to February, 2001, averaging 117 per month. In China, things hasn't been well either. Ye Renhao, Gong Yuguo, Chen Yizhou, Tong Jiawei together with Wang Zhidong, the once well-known professional CEOs, have all been eliminated or resigned from their cherished career, even though most of them are founders of some famous web sites.

An analyst said: "I think the main reason for those CEOs being kicked out was that they didn't position themselves properly and made a wrong judgement of their abilities. Most CEOs can only learn from American styles instead of finding their

proved to be a rather conservative CEO to investors. Although the largest Chinese web portals, offering a Chinese-language network of four localized Web sites that are produced and updated daily by local teams in China, Hongkong, Taiwan and America, Sina has lagged behind other web sites on profitability recently. Sina's financial report of last quarter showed great deficit. It's no doubt that Wang Zhidong has certain responsibilities for this.

Wang's story is typical among many company founders and perhaps especially prevalent in China, which lacks an entrepreneurial tradition. Just like what some experts of Internet industry said: "China don't need any digital heroes. Great founders can bring initial but not forever success. What the capital needs is immediate profit, while the ideal of those founders like Wang Zhidong is to look upon the enterprise as a lifelong career. So there is natural contradiction between the two sides."

"The development of an enterprise includes the process of getting into the market lead by founders, venture investors, professional managers, lawyers, accountants and bankers. It's a hard job, only through this way can Chinese Software and Intel appear. As to whether the founder and management team should be separated, there is no decision. The key point is the assessment of the management team by the board of directors representing the interests of shareholders," said Mr. Mao, Sina's new CEO, on June 7 press conference.

Prior to Wang's resignation, Sina has already announced that it would cut its global workforce by 15 percent by the end of June. To everyone's great surprise, however, Wang Zhidong has become the first casualty of this rationalization. Anyway, Sina is still Sina without Wang Zhidong. "I have no wish to create a new era in Sina and neither do I want to see a Wang Zhidong or post-Wang Zhidong era. What Sina treasures is the spirit of team work," said Wang Yan, the new president of Sina. "Sina should transcend the life span of its professional leaders. Only in this way, can Sina turn from a start-up into a grown-up."



By Zhao Xia

"Never be self-complacent" is Zhou Xuan's motto. Zhou, 21, is a deaf-mute sophomore in Beijing Special Educational College, a well-known institute for deaf and mute persons in Beijing.

Everyone in the world would like to be healthy. However, sometimes, fate treats someone unfairly. Do you ever think how you would face the world if you were deaf and mute? With despair? Self-effacement? Self-distrust? Zhou Xuan, an optimistic, versatile young man has rejected all these feelings. "I cannot hear or speak. While I am physically handicapped, my spirit remains unaffected. I exert myself constantly to learn more, to grasp more. Only in this way can I compete with others. With my efforts, I can 'hear' my future is not a dream even without hearing," Zhou firmly said, casting his eyes into the distance.

Zhou Xuan's major is art, including drawing, photography and advertisement design. One sunny afternoon, Zhou and his classmates are working on some photos in their bright, spacious classroom. They study and learn through mutual discussion, sometimes happily, sometimes explosively, although ordinary people cannot understand what is going on in their silent world.

His World Became Soundless

Twenty-one years ago, Zhou Xuan came into this world. Little by little, he developed into a normal child with playful eyes and a loving disposition. When

neither did they understand him. Subsequently this sensitive boy quickly turned away from anyone who could not understand what he was trying to communicate with his frenzied gestures. He became more and more self-contemptuous and lonely. "It was reasonable for a deaf-mute person like me to have this kind of thought and action, the ability to communicate is such a powerful human need that having it taken away, was like being robbed of my very identity," Zhou wrote this sentence peacefully. He felt inferior until he met his first teacher when he was 7.

Unforgettable Teacher

Zhou's parents made up their mind to send their son to school in order to conquer Zhou's inferiority complex.

"I will never forget my first teacher," Zhou wrote, his face lighting up with affection, "it was she who led me to a new path which made me able to communicate with others and it was she who helped me build up my confidence."

"I remembered she held my hand as we went into a classroom where there were several kids the same age as me. They were reading a cartoon book and used some signs I was unfamiliar with to help me exchange ideas, they were all cheerful." To his teacher's trained eye, although it seemed that Zhou did not like to communicate with others because of his disability, he still appeared to have normal curiosity for his age and to be fully aware of his environment. Therefore, she led Zhou into a group of children who were playing happily, which



1

I Can Hear Tomorrow

he had his first birthday, every relative wished this boy health and success throughout his life, especially his parents.

A year and a half after his birth in 1982, this little boy suddenly got a high fever, so his anxious parents sent him to hospital where he was rushed to have an injection. This was the most unforgettable and unfortunate injection he could have had! It was that careless administered injection that robbed all sound from Zhou Xuan. "Fate unfairly did not give me enough time to remember what sound was," Zhou recalled with sadness. Such carelessness destined this little boy to face a silent world for the rest of his life. After such a terrible experience so early in life, it was natural for any one to lose confidence. And so Zhou Xuan lost his.

Robbed Childhood

As time passed, Zhou developed into an attractive youngster, but sadness was etched into his features. Zhou grew up from a naive child to a sensible boy, but the most painful thing to him was that he gradually realized he was different: he found others could express their feelings easily, they could exchange ideas freely, but he did not know what they were talking about,



4

aroused curiosity and interest in this little boy. "Just at that moment, I developed the interest to learn sign language so that I could join those kids." This first teacher taught Zhou through silent classes that deaf-mute people could also have their own ways to communicate with normal persons. "With that teacher's help, I became more and more self-confident and knew I should make more efforts than others. Without her, I might have given up on life, on people, on the world."

Talent In Picture Shooting

Photography, a kind of visual art, is one of Zhou Xuan's specialities. Many of his works have received awards in deaf-mute photography competitions.

"With my first teacher's instruction, I knew I had some talent. Then I chose shooting, which does not need speaking or listening."

Zhou's interest in photography was sparked by one journey he made in October 1998. Zhou and 12 other deaf-mute classmates set off with their teacher from Simatai Great Wall, reaching Gubeikou Great Wall in three days. "Some places had not been rebuilt and were very dangerous. Only risk takers could survive this. We managed to conquer all these difficulties," Zhou wrote, with the trace of a smile on his face.

During this risky journey, Zhou took many pictures. "I could neither speak nor hear, while I would like others to enjoy my happiness and my feelings. The photos could help me, they could tell others where I went, what I saw." After that journey Zhou acquired a passion for photography with his instinctive feeling for beauty helping him along the way. He has become more and more successful in

1. Drawing is Zhou's mouth to tell stories.

2. Chatting with his classmates is the happiest moment.

3. Attentionally cleaning up his camera.

4. Reading newspapers is one of Zhou's daily routines.

5/6 Two shooting works of Zhou, both in Gubeikou Great Wall in 1999.

Zhou Xuan's Achievements in Photography:

1999 Deaf Photography Exhibition in Beijing
The first prize

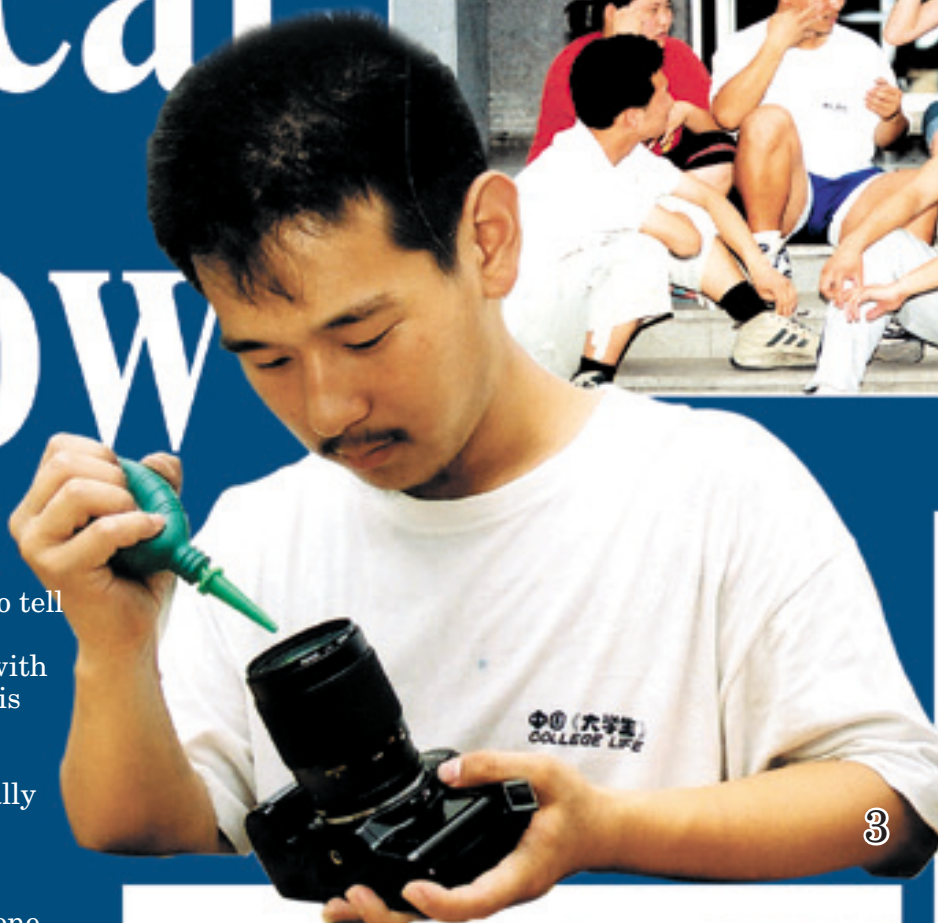
1999 Deaf Photography Exhibition in Taiwan
The third prize

2000 Deaf Photography Exhibition in Guangzhou
'Excellent' prize

2001 Deaf Photography Exhibition in Beijing
The second prize



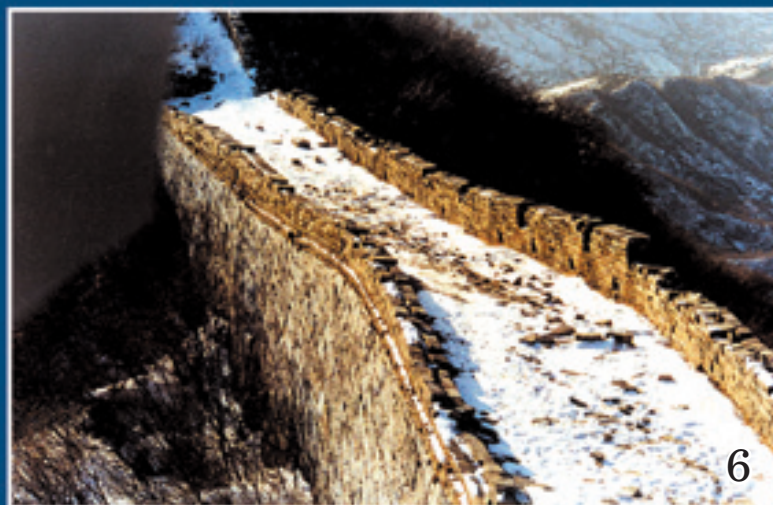
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Photos by Zhuang Jian

the field of photography. Zhou has been taking landscape shots for three years now, with many receiving awards in exhibitions. Since it was his first journey to the Great Wall which gave birth to his love for photography, most of his works since has been concentrated on the Great Wall. Zhou's deep appreciation of beauty has also made him an excellent advertisement designer.

"I am now in grade two in this special college, I am optimistic for my future with my two specialities: photography and advertisement design. I know there must be some difficulties ahead, but I know it is not a dream, I can 'hear' it." Zhou firmly said.

Besides studying, in his spare time, this young guy likes listening to music, even though he can't hear the singer's voice, he can still hear faint music; besides this, he likes playing football and basketball. In April this year, he was chosen to attend the Countrywide Deaf Basketball Match representing Beijing. It is believable this versatile boy can 'hear' his bright future.

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Guilin Vases Arrive in Beijing

By Miao Yajie

99 treasured plum vases kept in the Guilin Museum are now on display at the Museum of Chinese History. These vases along with more than 200 plum vases were unearthed from the Eleven Tombs of the Jingjiang Prince Families of the Ming Dynasty (1368-1644). Jingjiang was once the name for Guilin. An old saying goes that there are Thirteen Ming Tombs in Beijing in the north, and Eleven Jingjiang Tombs in the south.

In ancient China, plum vases were extensively used as vessels for wine, household decorations, and as burial articles in tombs. They originated in the 7th century and became quite popular later on with the maturity of blue and white porcelain. Though the shape varied in different historic periods, plum vases share common features of short neck, small opening, full shoulder, round belly, narrow waist and long shank.

The vases unearthed from Jingjiang Mausoleum are divided into 13 types of glaze colors

and 28 patterns, dating back to 6 different historic periods. Here are a few exhibits not to be missed: a polychrome plum vase with crackled glaze, clouds and dragon design, made in the reign of Emperor Wanli (1573-1620). Generally a five-clawed dragon symbolizes the emperor, whereas four-clawed dragon designs are used for the prince. This vase is unique, however, in that the dragon not only has five claws, but it also has a paw of six claws. Another vase, a blue and white high-waist plum vase with lid and design with twin dragons vying for the pearl, was made in the reign of Emperor Jiajing (1522-1566). It contained three baby mice soaked in alcohol when unearthed. According to traditional Chinese medicine theory, mouse-alcohol is a tonic drink. The discovery has a very high value in the research of alcohol culture in Guilin.

Other vases with patterns of figures, flowers, fish, aquatic plants, creatures, and Eight Trigrams are all worth appreciating.



Photo by Huang Xuyu

Flares from the 70's

By Miao Yajie

The era of unified clothing ended in the late 70's, and an era of colorful individualism began overnight. With the suddenness of a thunderbolt, the word "fashion" took root in the hearts of urban people, especially the young. Flared trousers (some even trailing on the ground), along with wavy-style hair for girls and swept-back hair for boys, frog sun glasses, were the coolest of the cool in the late 70's throughout the early years of the 80's. Generally speaking, those pioneers of fashion at first enjoyed a notorious fame, while conservatives around the country commented, "only young rogues or loafers would dress like that."

The song "When will you come again" is among one of the hottest pop songs of that time, which was banned at one time, considered "decadent music" for broadcasting. The female Taiwanese singer, Deng Lijun, has been a legendary idol for over 20 years since her soft and sweet voice first bathed the ears of Beijingers.

Flared trousers of a 70's or 80's style are a rarity these days, however, fashion rotates in its own bizarre or even, normal way. Something from flared trousers has remained in many modern designs. But one thing is for sure: no matter how wide the bottom of your trouser legs, you can never fascinate people in the same way flared trousers did in the late 70's.

Read Hutong

Hutong to the natives of Beijing is like what coral reef is to the marine aquatic animals. Hutong provides an environment for the survival of the natives of Beijing, which helps the formation of Beijing culture.

By Yang Xin



"Beautiful flowers do not always bloom. Beautiful scenery does not exist all the time.... When will you come again?"
"Man, your trousers are made from an old flour bag? Careful they don't fall down."



Photo by Huang Xuyu

Classical Furniture Auction

By Miao Yajie

"It's definitely predestination when finally the piece belongs to you." A buyer, Mr. Wang Tiancheng, excitedly caressed his new collection bought at a Classical Furniture Auction, a three-piece suite in Huanghuali wood, two meditation chairs and a tea table. "The pair of chairs is very unique in shape, very rare. The Meditation chair, as the name suggests, is wide enough for one person to sit in meditation. I'm going to put it in my office, and sit on the chair with my friend, sipping tea, chatting, that will be very enjoyable."

The auction was jointly held by Beijing Zhong Jia Auction Inc. and Beijing Gold Lacquer Inlaid Factory last Sunday,

about 200 pieces of furniture went under the hammer, some were antiques collected and restored by the factory, some were imitations.

"The rate and volume of business is not satisfying to me," said Mr. Pan Jun, consultant of Zhong Jia. "I think the base price was a little bit too high, close to its present market price: little room was left for the buyers."

The highest bid at the auction was a camphor wood water buffalo sculpture with three kids playing on its back. The hammer price was 135,000 yuan, approximately twice the base price.



Photo by Huang Xuyu

A Living History of a Nation

By Miao Yajie

"Costumes represent the overall characteristics and level of civilization of a nation," said Ms. Hu Yingqing, chief editor of the Beijing Institute of Clothing Technology's Journal, in its newly-opened 1,600 square-meters National Costume Museum.

Several thousands of clothes, silver ornaments, brocades, embroideries, batiks from nationalities such as Tibet, Mongolia, Miao, Yao, Manchu, have been collected over the past 13 years. "Half of the collection dates back to the late 19th century coming up to the beginning of the 20th century. Many of articles in our museum are the only piece of their kind in the world," Ms. Hu said.

With a limited budget, the museum can boast such a collection, partly due to the contribution by simple and kindhearted fellow countrymen of the minorities, partly due to the enthusiasm of all the collectors in the past years. Pointing to a Tibetan man's brocade robe adorned with leopard skin dating back to the early 20th century, Ms. Yang Yuan, the curator of the museum told me the following story.

"We knew someone who owned this priceless robe in the Tibetan region of Shiqu County, Sichuan province. But we don't know exactly where he lived, so we set out to look for him on

horseback, because the road there was very difficult. That day my horse stepped into an area of swamp land, threw me to the ground, and my Achilles tendon was broken in a second. I was not willing to go back to Beijing empty handed, so I just got a pair of crutches and continued the search. I felt extremely lucky to meet a top official of the autonomous region on the prairie one day, he was very surprised to see a woman of the Han nationality with a crutch in a Tibetan vicinity. He was touched when he knew the reason why I was here, so he went to see the owner himself and persuaded him to sell his family treasure to us for just 100,000 yuan. As for the robe itself, the adornment of the leopard skin symbolizes the courage and vigor of the Tibetan man. Usually only a noble could afford it in his life. Not only is the leopard skin hard to obtain, but also the Indian brocade was said to be 300 yuan per 30 by 36 cm. The woven method of the Indian brocade no longer exists," Ms. Yang said. "Our museum is attempting to preserve and carry forward the essence of national costumes and folk textile craft."

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Courtyard restaurant mixes traition with nutrition in Huizhong palace

As you enter the room, you see four Chinese calligraphic scrolls which are rolled up on occasion to reveal four Peking Opera masks of the four character types, sheng, dan, jing and chou, or the male, female, painted face and clown roles.

This is not a theatre where traditional Chinese dramas are staged. It is a restaurant by the name of Yangshengtang, or the hall of Health Preservation, at the Huizhong Palace, a privately owned traditional courtyard complex. The owner of the complex wants to provide a rich cultural ambience for the diners.

Turning east at the Shilihe Overpass off the East Third Ring Road, then left at the first intersection and following the road signs, you will find the palace in a matter of a few minutes.

Yangshengtang is a large restaurant with 14 private rooms on the east and west sides. It can serve 300 people at the same time. The restaurant invites professional pharmacists to prepare the menu items, which consist of a reasonable mix of herbal medicines for nutritional purposes, and other ingredients to delight the palate, according to Louis Liu, deputy general manager of the place.

The restaurant now serves six juices extracted from the fruit of Chinese wolfberry, water chestnuts, Chinese hawthorns, ect.

It also prepares about y60 kinds of liquors fortified with Chinese herbal medicines. "Such liquors fortified with Chinese herbal medicines are not so strong," Liu said. "But the aroma of the liquor lingers a long time." The juices and liquors are trademark features of the restaurant, which is a unique treat for the local diners. Nutritious hotpots of different kinds are also available at the restaurant.

"We want to provide visitors with the best food to keep them in the best of health, and all in an attractive environment," said Liu.

Yes, it is a nice place that is away from the urban noise and has nutritious dishes to refresh and delight you.

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No Choice in Life

A Father's Note

Part of First Chapter

By Zhou Guoping

Niu Niu was born in a hospital close to my house. When I pass this hospital each time, I can't help looking into a white building inside the gate of the hospital. Seemingly, I see the newborn Niu Niu is wrapped in a piece of gauze and lies on a small bed in a nursing room on the second floor. She is waiting for me to pick her home. My idea is so strong although I know she is dead I still want to have a look.

This hospital is really close to my house. Across the road outside my residential area, it takes only several minutes to get to the hospital. It is on my way to work and I always pass it unavoidably. But since that I have never entered the hospital. A clear memory stops me to turn my idea into action. One afternoon three years ago, I hurried to cross the road but stopped by a traffic police standing by the crosswalk because I infringed traffic regulations. After listening to my explanation and seeing the baby quilt under my arm, he signed me to pass through. In the evening that day, I held a baby girl in this quilt and accompanied her mother to walk down the stairs and walk out the hospital. I turned around and had a look at the building. In minutes I realized Niu Niu was not among newborns wrapped in gauges on the nursing room on the second floor. I lost no time turning back and walking away. I tried not to think what had happened after I accompanied Niu Niu and her mother back home from the hospital.

But next time, when I passed by the hospital, I couldn't help looking into the hospital and saw Niu Niu wrapped in gauge was waiting for me to pick her home. Although she was not in any places in the world, I should find her in this place she was born. Otherwise, where she would go? I couldn't think it out. Why can a small boat of life run up on rocks and sink after it has anchored safely (this hospital is the place she has anchored in)?

In unknown mysterious ocean areas, there are numerous small boats of life. But only minority can enter the field of vision of the human. Each boat has experienced a long drift from their initial appearance to anchor. This process of drift is finished in the womb of the mother. As the baby inside Yu Er's body gets bigger, I seemingly see a small and strange boat. I know nothing about it. But it is determined by fate to run towards me.

Why is it determined by fate? In fact, it may drift in that mysterious ocean area beyond the field of vision of the human forever and couldn't find a womb to anchor in the shore of human. For instance, if we were not prompted by a sudden impulse and make love on the carpet in the study or if the period of ovulation of Yu Er did not postpone because she practiced slim qigong exercises, we did not have Niu Niu. She came to the world accidentally. But which birth is inevitable? Even if we pick a season for sowing seeds, it is still by opportunity for which one seed we have sowed. I thought it was impossible for this sperm to meet that egg. If they missed, I could not exist in this world. I think it is inconceivable. I was surprised by another thing. Although the baby is the outcome of making love one day, there is nothing common between the reason and the result. Looking at the gentle face of the baby, no couple remember their pants while making love. I have to imagine there are more sacred reasons for birth. Such reasons guarantee each small boat of life has a kind of nature determined by fate.



"I think Zhou Guoping's book about his daughter is a hand-to-hand fight against the death he had with his pen for the dignity of the life." (Zhu Haijun, Today's Evening Newspaper,)

"What I want to say after I bought and read the book Niu Niu which is full of Zhou Guoping's cold but gentle words is that in this world we actually all are Niu Niu." (Liu Song, Nanchang Evening Newspaper, July 17, 1997)

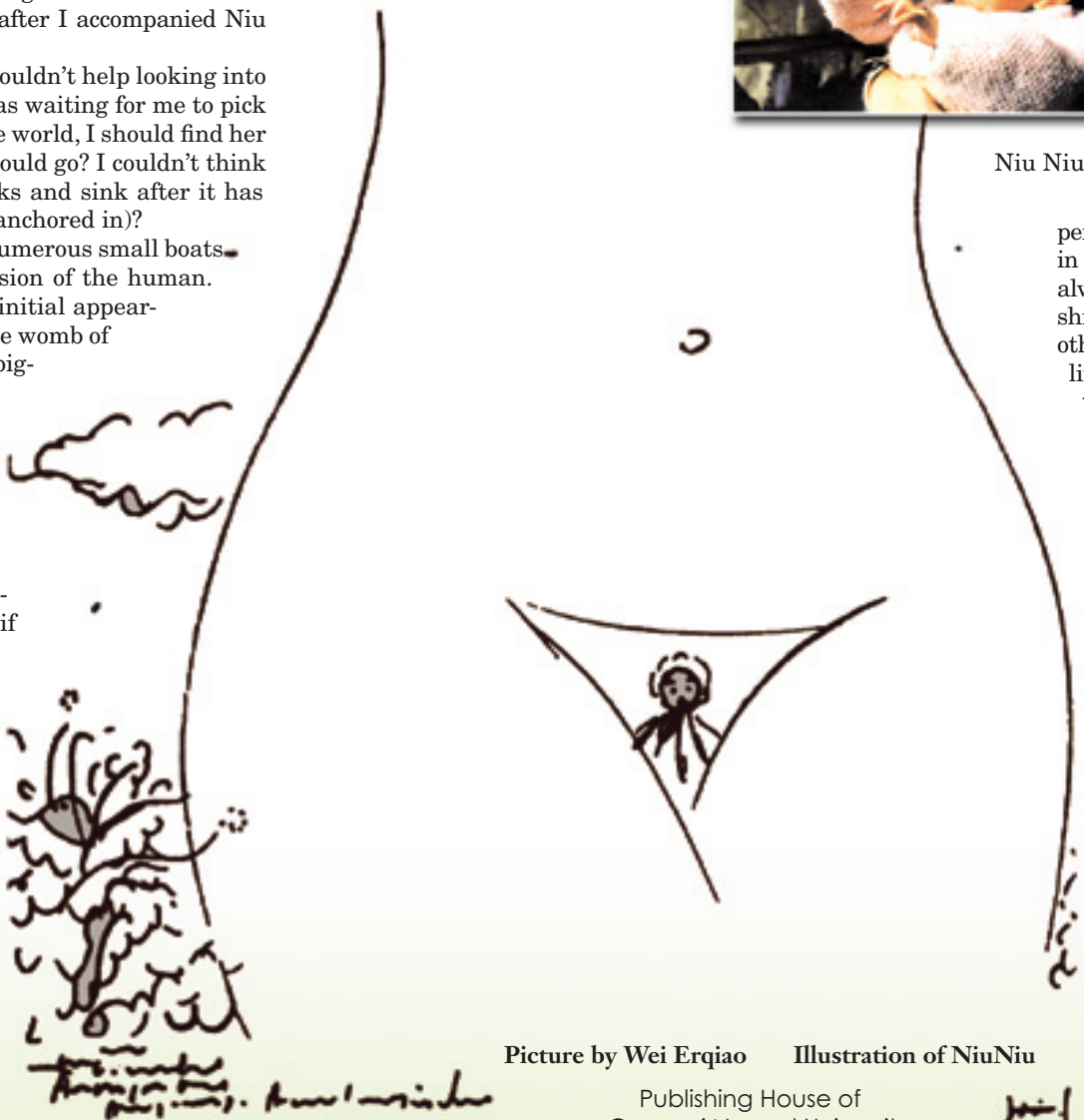
"As the father of Niu Niu, Zhou Guoping has special feelings to his daughter which are difficult to surmount. So he is impossible to talk extravagantly about significance. We, without any children, have nothing to surmount. But we desire to surmount and be delivered through significance. This is nothing but our pain point..." (Chen He, Literature and Arts Paper, August 30, 1997)

"Niu Niu illustrates not only the tragedy experienced by the author, but also a patient world." (Beijing Evening Newspaper, January 10, 2000)

"It provides a vivid case for the Chinese people to study modern medical conception and system." (Chinese Book Reading Newspaper, January 12, 2000)



Niu Niu



Picture by Wei Erqiao Illustration of NiuNiu

Publishing House of Guangxi Normal University

No Choice in Life

Zhou Guoping

Today is the sixth anniversary of Niu Niu's death. It is cloudy. I call Yu Er. She says she remembers today of six years ago was a sunny day. She also says if she were alive she should have been in the primary school now. All these are what she can say. Maybe she does not know how helpless she is now. In the past few days, I once visited the house in which we cultivated Niu Niu. Today all in the house had changed except the toys bought for Niu Niu remained the same in a top-box. I took out all the toys and rubbed them and as if I felt the warmth remained after a touch by Niu Niu's small hands. Not long, all tracks of Niu Niu's life in this house will disappear. Even if we turned this house into a permanent museum, we are still incapable of finding its significance.

After I finished the writing of the book Niu Niu and handed it to the publishing house, I myself believed I had said good-bye to what happened in the past: Niu Niu, Yu Er and those sad days I had in my life. I refuse to read the book again. To me, it is not a book but a grave. I built it because I wanted to leave it and begin my new life from it. Beyond my expectation, in the reader's eyes, it is still a book. I am unable to stop it from being listed as one of the best-sellers, to prevent its pirated editions sold in bookstalls or bookstores and also to stop newspapers from issuing many moving critics about it. Maybe I shouldn't tell the public about such a private thing and make it a social story. Or, on the contrary, it may be not only a private event but also a certain kind of similar mental experience the people have had. I should continue to face it bravely together with the reader.

But I know, it is not a problem whether you are brave or not. I believe I am brave enough to face what have happened in my life and even to go into the core of the tragedy and stop in the absurdness. But my life does not change marvelously. People always hope to have a different life after experiencing some hardships and others believe he should have more experiences than others and have an unconventional realm of life. But in fact, in my life I am still one of the ordinary people and can be involved in the whirlpool of the life. For instance, many readers can't understand my divorce with Yu Er and are shocked by it. They hope to have a better explanation about our divorce. In fact Yu Er and I are the same as others. With our hardships and consciousness, we are still unable to avoid the weakness of human. Even if we did not depart, we would have a life as others have. The most profound experiences in our life are the most hopeless experiences. They do not have their corresponding things in the world and will be inevitably flooded by the trends of the life. Certainly, to be flooded does not mean they disappear forever. They are still in the depth we could not reach in our daily life. They become undercurrents in the mind everybody could not face and avoid.

I really believe all have such undercurrents in their minds. No matter how you avoid them, they still exist. No matter how you face them, they refuse to come to the surface of your life. When small setbacks in your life vie each other for significance, these serious hardships hide them in a quiet bottomless abyss and can't find significance forever. After I know such kind of hopelessness, I become more generous towards others and myself and am not misled by superficial appearance. One critic tells me there are many lonely people by me. Another critic says we can't surpass the real pain spots. So it is meaningless to deliver us. We are grateful to these two critics. I think Niu Niu is so attractive for such a helplessness even the adults can't get rid of.

November 24, 1997

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By Yi He

On June 23, the International Olympic Day, three world-known singers Placido Domingo, Luciano Pavarotti and Jose Carreras will hold a concert in the Wumen Square in Beijing's Forbidden City. As the performance day is close, the audience who are concerned about the concert are thinking about three things.

What is about the weather?

Will the concert be cancelled owing to bad weather? Liu Yang from the China Art and Culture Co. Ltd. says they have consulted the meteorological department in Beijing about the weather. The department has studied the weather around that day in history and estimates that Beijing had less rain on July 23 in history. Furthermore the precipitation rate this year is extreme low. At the same time, some preparations have been made for a rain that day.

Will the concert bring damage to the Forbidden City?

Each brick or tile in the For-

bidden City, a symbol building of the Oriental culture, is an invaluable asset. It is a problem concerned by the people to protect the 600-year-old Forbidden City while building necessary facilities for the concert. Liu Yang explains that it is the primary principle to protect each brick or tile from damage.

To free this Qing imperial court from any damage, the concert area will be covered by carpet. During construction, the carpet is pressed with multi-layer boards, which are glued together. On the boards are

scaffolds. The 12-meter-high stage is set on a wooden floored protective layer. All scaffolds are supported by 6cm-thick wooden squares. All facilities are 20 meters away from the walls of the Wumen Gate. The audience stands are all supported by lumber and all seats are tied together and enclosed by railings. In other words, the audience watch the performance on the suspended seats. Originally, there will be 30,000 seats. Today the number of seats has decreased to less than 20,000 after a consideration of safety. Also considering the ef-

fects the sound and voice bring to the ancient buildings, the stage sound is approved and tested strictly.

Will the ticket be too expensive?

Except for the fee for the performance given by the three world-known singers, the inputs in the audience control, building of the stage, sound facilities and supporting traffic facilities are huge too. So the ticket will cost \$280-1,600.

Two screens will stand in front of dark red walls on both sides of the Wumen Gate. They will stand against the frameworks, in a similar shape of the walls. With video facilities in them, the screens make the performers move on the palace walls. This concert is matchless by any concerts these three singers have held before. The dark red wall of the Wumen Gate demonstrates a special feature. The weathering tracks on the wall and its cultural significance are so profound that this concert will have greater influence than any concerts these three famous singers have held before. A combination of the 600-year-old ancient buildings of the East with the classic music of the West provides a really seldom chance for these three world-known tenors to give a joint performance.

Concerns Challenge Tenors' Concert

File photo for the three tenors' concert



Model stage of the concert in Beijing

Photos provided by China Art and Culture Co. Ltd.

Hamlet as a Mafioso

By Zhu Lin

Just like the saying goes "Everyone has his own interpretation of Hamlet, inspiration from Hamlet is never ending throughout artistic history. With bold originality, the senior students of Beijing Film Institute combine Shakespeare's great tragedy with the classic movie "The Godfather", turning their drama into "Godfather/Hamlet". It is performed at the Youth Art Theatre from June 1 through June 17.

One can certainly get a feel for the students' originality just by listening to the music they choose for the drama. The famous soliloquy "To be or not to be" is chanted to rap music. When Horatio dies for saving Hamlet's life, the music "Time to Say Goodbye" starts up. The 2000 Cannes winner Wang Jiawei's film sound track accompanies the mafia's violence, and gang members get shot one by one in beautiful rhythm.

The young actors and actresses are pretty proud of their creation. In the actor starring Hamlet Li Xiaofei's words, it's very hard to follow how Shakespeare's Hamlet was thinking, while comparatively easy to understand the Godfather's context. Rather than making a classic in the original way, they decide to combine "Hamlet" and "The Godfather" together. "The idea was born naturally during our rehearsal one day, and we were shocked ourselves," Li laughed.

However, this is not the first time a classic drama has been interpreted in this way. Over the last few years on Beijing's drama stage, there has been a wave of modern interpretations including "The Tempest", "The Twelfth Night", let alone the movie "Romeo and Juliet" starring Leonardo Di Caprio. Do the directors and playwrights think the audience are tired of classic versions? Has Shakespeare abandoned modern society or has modern society abandoned Shakespeare?



Photo by Tie Qiang

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A Brief Introduction of Daiyuexuan

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4. Arras: one art arras, 4mx2m, valuable for collection, price: 4,000RMB 挂毯: 转让艺术挂毯, 有收藏价值, 4米长, 2米宽, 4000元。联系人: 贺先生 电话: 64027127
5. Cricket Cage: an old cricket cage, valuable for collection, price negotiable 蟋蟀罐: 转让旧蟋蟀罐一对, 有收藏价值, 价面议。联系人: 徐先生 电话: 63173398 (19:00后)
6. Paper currencies: paper currencies with consecutive numbers, of special collection value, price fixed at 750RMB. 纸币: 转让联体纸币, 极有收藏价值, 750元无商量。联系人: 许小姐 电话: 191-1130574
7. Football: with the signature of the former national football team, valuable for collection, price: >5,000RMB 足球: 转让前女足国家队签名足球一个, 有收藏价值, 5000元以上。联系人: 孙先生 电话: 95968-65832

229 Flavors of Jiaozi

By Wang Dandan

If you are at all familiar with Beijing cuisine, then you will know about jiaozi, or dumplings. But have you ever dined at a restaurant that serves 229 different varieties of jiaozi? That's how many choices are on offer at Tianjin Baijiaoyuan, or Hundreds of jiaozi in Tianjin, a newly opened restaurant at Xidan. Jiaozi stuffed with just about every kind of filling you could possibly imagine are available here, pork, beef, or mutton mixed with all kinds of vegetables, mushrooms, herbs, as well as wholly vegetarian varieties, seafood, even sweet jiaozi for desert.

The ambience of Tianjin Baijiaoyuan complements the simple, but delicious food. The walls are hung with traditional paintings, waiters wear traditional dress, and ancient Chinese music plays softly in the background.

Tianjin Baijiaoyuan, already a popular restaurant chain in some other cities, is preparing to go global, with its first restaurant set to open in Los Angeles at the end of this year.

Add: Xinwenhuajie (新文化街), Xidan, turn south from Xidan to Xuanwumenneidajie(宣武门内大街) on the west side of Xuanwumenneidajie you will find a hutong, it is right located there.

Tel: 66059371/2

E-Pic for Digital Imaging

By Jiao Pei

If you take a fantastic photo with your digital camera, are you content simply to view it on your PC? I am not, and after a little searching, I discovered a shop recently that specializes in digital image processing. The shop, at Full Link Plaza, is called e-Pic Photo Image Center, and is owned by Beijing e-Pic Image Network Co.

As well as a full range of digital services, they also offer traditional image processing, for those of you who prefer the old fashioned methods. The most convenient thing, and a real sign of the times, is that they provide an online service. You can upload your pictures via the internet, and have the hard copies delivered to your door. They can also transfer your works of art onto plates, photo CDs, book-marks, jigsaws, calendars, key rings, greeting cards, T-shirts, even wrist watches.

Check it out in person, or if you prefer, online, at www.e-pic.com.

Add: shop 221 Full Link Plaza Chaoyangmenwai Dajie

Open: 9am-9pm

Tel: 65882633/34

Totem

By Jiao Pei

I spent almost an entire afternoon at this shop selecting my favorite toys and playing chess with the two friendly shop assistants. Finally I bought a very unusual wooden chess set, called Bankers and a 4-in-line chess (the player who first put four chess in line will win this game).

Totem Art, owned by Beijing Totem Commerce, specializes in Chinese knots, pottery and toys. For the wooden toys for adults, the feature that grabbed my attention was the low prices, mostly under 100 yuan. There are 3 categories, chess pieces and boards, puzzles, and toys that test your hand and eye coordination.

The red Chinese knots combined with kinds of facial makeup used in traditional operas can be used to decorate your home, and the ring chains made of pottery makes great jewellery.

Unfortunately there is not a very wide selection of each of the three types of goods on sale, but they do have some really interesting and unusual things. **Add:** 55 Yonghegong Dajie (雍和宫大街), Dongcheng District Walk 200 meters south from Yonghegong Overpass **Open:** 9 am - 8-9 pm **Tel:** 84039778



Oasis in Hot Summer

Qiaoying Teahouse



By Li Dan

While out walking near Ritan Park one hot summer evening, I came across a small and so cute looking teahouse. Named Qiaoying, meaning shadow of the bridge, it is really designed like a bridge! The facade looks like an arched bridge with a bright reflector on its surface. A gentle breeze ruffled the mat curtain, decorated with beautiful Chinese calligraphy, and seemed to offer a warm welcome to a stranger.

The teahouse is not of a traditional design, but rather utilizes various primitive materials to create a modern and cultural atmosphere. Through the cracks between the wooden floorboards can be seen many cobblestones, taken from a dry riverbed in Huairou County and there are four mini TV sets in the ground playing MTV videos of flowing water. In each corner of the teahouse there are plants, some growing up from the wooden floor and others climbing along the wooden stands out of the window. With the romantic music here, enjoying a little pot tea will help erase the stress of the working day.

Qiaoying teahouse offers numerous varieties of tea for sale and consumption. They also sell exquisite earthenware and pottery tea sets and gift packages. Every Saturday afternoon from 2 pm to 4 pm, a free tea party is held here, but be warned, Qiaoying is tiny, and if you want to be sure of getting a table, you had better book! **Add:** right side of Guobin St., 400 meters north of Guiyou Shopping Center, Chaoyang District. **Open:** 9 am - midnight **Tel:** 65933394

Qiaoying's exquisite tea sets

Photo by Chen Shuyi

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1 ORTH XINHUA STREET, LUBUKOU
西城区六部口北新华街 1 号 6605-5812

Central Conservatory of music
中央音乐学院
(Zhongyang Yinyue Xueyuan)
43 Baojia Street, Xicheng District
西城区鲍家街 43 号, 6605-3531

Forbidden City Concert Hall
中山音乐堂
West side of Tiananmen, inside Zhongshan Park
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Add: 国贸中心北路西
North Gate of China World Trade Center
TEL: 65956962

Fengxing Music Bar 风行音乐吧
(Fengxing yinyueba)
Baiyi Road, Straight north from Capital Stadium on Baiyilu, on east side of South Gate of Agriculture and Science University
海淀区白颐路农科院南门东侧 50 米, 6517-7744 ext.2286, 5pm-2am.

Bar(酒吧)

Henry J.Bean's Bar & Grill 亨利酒吧
1/F China World Trade Center
建国门外国贸中心内一层
6505-2266 ext. 6569, 11: 00am-2am. Just Like America: if you don't come out in a food coma you haven't cleaned your plate. Is it surprising we're overweight? Live music Monday through Saturday.

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Add: NB138A, China World Shopping Mall,
China World Trade Center, Beijing China
Tel: 861-6552288-68138 Mobile: 13911171458

Get Lucky Bar 豪运酒吧 (Haoyun juba)
Taiyang Gong, East of University of International Business and Economics, near Taiyang Market
朝阳区太阳宫经贸大学南门东侧, 6429-9109, 6420-4249, 5pm-2am. Hard to find, but worth the trip. Beijing's up and coming underground rock venue. Live shows every Tuesday, Friday and Saturday.

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designs

too...

GOLF (高尔夫)

Beijing Beichen Golf Club 北京北辰高尔夫俱乐部
8 Beichen Dong Lu, Chaoyang District
朝阳区北辰东路 8 号
9:00-20:30; 6491.0386

Beijing Golf Club 北京高尔夫球俱乐部
East Side of chaobai River Reservoir, shunyi District
Beijing International Golf Club

BUNGEE JUMPING(蹦极)

Shidu Bungee Jumping Facility 十渡蹦极场
(房山拒马娱乐有限公司) |
Shidu Area, Fangshan District
房山区十渡;
8:00-17:00; 6418.1099

CLIMBING(攀岩)

Culture Club 百泉文彩俱乐部健身中心
1st Floor, East Gate Plaza, 29 Dongzhongjie, Dongcheng District
东城区东中街 29 号;
7:00-0:00; 6418.1099

HORSE RIDING(骑马)

Wanfangting Horseback Riding Club. 万芳亭骑士俱乐部
West to yangqiao, Nansanhuan, Wanfangting Park, Fengtai District
丰台区南三环洋桥西万芳亭公园内
8:30-18:30; 6722.7339

FLIGHT(滑翔)

Beijing International Unite Flight 北京华联航空俱乐部
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北京市海淀区花园东路 8 号
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In the oldest part of the old Peking our Xuanwuhutong
Tour will take you though the thousand-year-old Hutong (narrow alley) by rickshaw where you can chat with the local people in their hundred years old courtyard houses, walk about in the Hutongs, visit a local farmer's market, go into a Local Kindergarten and an old nightclub of the Qing Dynasty.
The last stop you may also have a cup of tea in a three hundred years old Peking Opera House, the Zheng-Yi Temple Theatre, which is the only one wooden constructed theatre architecture left.



Beijing Townhouse

By Wang Dandan

The newest phenomenon to hit the Beijing property market is the townhouse, a fresh concept for Beijing locals, but one that will be familiar to most 'Laowai'. In the well-sold 'Orange County' since last year, we can find some samples of Beijing townhouse. During the spring housing exhibition on May 4th and in subsequent exhibitions, more and more townhouses have made their appearance.

Situation in Beijing

To date only one townhouse development project has been granted an authorized selling certificate, namely Yidong Yangfang, or Ideal House, in the south east of Beijing, with a signed purchasing agreement of nearly 80 houses.

A number of others, such as Kangkeng (Cannes) Townhouse, Shidai Zhuangyuan (Times Manor), and Wanke Qingqing are expected to be granted certificates soon. Later this year developers from Shenyang, Liaoning province will start construction of a 200,000 m² townhouse project. Also in Wangjing area, one or two townhouse projects are currently underway.

Despite their increasing popularity, townhouses do not yet constitute a main trend of the property market, because due to Current lack of legal certification, most of them can only be reserved rather than sold.

However as more and more townhouses will soon be granted certification, many people are beginning to take the various factors into serious consideration, and analyze the advantages and disadvantages of living in townhouses, the most important of which is still location. The distance of the townhouse from downtown Beijing is directly related to whether it qualifies as a top standard residential area. Proximity to an expressway linking the project with the city will guarantee convenient transportation. Also, if the development is located in an area with too high a population density, despite the ad-

vantages that will bring in terms of infrastructure, this will detract from its appeal to those seeking to escape the crowds.

Counterparts in Shanghai

Compared to Beijing, the situation regarding townhouses in Shanghai is somewhat different.

At the moment, there is only one townhouse project in Shanghai, Jinqiu Jiazhou, which will soon be replaced by individual villa style housing. So why have townhouses not achieved the same level of popularity as in Beijing?

For one thing, transportation is a factor that deters people from living too far out of town. The license fees for owning a car in Shanghai are almost as much as the purchasing price, making them a prohibitively expensive luxury for most people.

Shanghai locals also tend to view townhouses as simply lowrise apartments, and would prefer to spend a little more money to buy a fully detached individual villa.

Brief introduction to Beijing townhouse projects

Xueli Aoxiang, (Sydney Coast), available for living May 2002; near Jingchang Expressway, Haidian District. Current price: 1,300,000 - 2,300,000 yuan / house. Phone: 64923538

Kangkeng (Cannes) Townhouse, available for living April 2002; Dingfuzhuang, Chaoyang District;

10 km from Guomao. Current price: 5,800 yuan/m². Phone: 85789580

Yidong Yangfang (Ideal House), available for living December 2001; Tianhuabeilu, Beijing Economic and Technical Development Zone. Current price: 5,800 yuan/m². Phone: 67870007

Yayun Xinxin Jiayuan, available for living September 2002, 1.5 km east of Jiahe Supermarket on Beiyuan road, Yayun-

cun. Current price: 11,000 yuan/m². Phone: 64899960/61

Shidai Zhuangyuan (Times Manor), available for living December 2001; north of Yayuncun. Current price: 6,500 yuan/m². Phone: 65906833

Xinxin Xiaozhen, available for living December 2001; Miaochenzen, Huairou County. Current price: 4,100 yuan/m². Phone: 60692999, 64994627

But not all available at present

Most of the companies mentioned above have table models of the townhouse projects, but surprisingly, considering the significant impact these projects have made on the property market, there are no display houses available for inspection by prospective buyers, as in most cases, they are still under construction.

Sydney Coast Townhouses, available from next May, can only show blueprints at present. The very friendly sales executive says they include with each house sold, a garden and a basement, at no extra cost! Prices range from 1,300,000 - 2,300,000 yuan per house. The blueprint certainly looks marvelous, but as yet there are no fully constructed houses available for inspection.

CannesTownhouse, originally due for completion in May this year, will not be finished until the end of the year. The sales executive suggested going to their area first to check the surroundings, but the houses will not be available for inspection until the end of this year. Even so, some of their houses have already been reserved in advance.

Ideal House, the only townhouse project that has been granted an authorized selling certificate, has already sold over 100 houses, despite offering only a blueprint for buyers to assess the quality of the project.

"HOUSING" welcome your feedback:

What kind of difficulties do you encounter when looking for housing in Beijing? What kind of information do you need? What can we help you with?

Our E-mail: jianrong@ynet.com
Tel: 65902522 Fax: 65902525



By Xu Yan

Continuing our series introducing apartments near the ring roads, this week we feature accommodation on and outside the Forth Ring Road.

North: ①Joy Sun Garden (Zhu Xi Yuan, 竹溪园) available for living on 07/2001; Qinghe, Haidian District, developed by Zhongdi Real Estate Development Co. Current price 6,600 yuan /m². Phone 62938688/8338.

②Sunshine Plaza (阳光广场), ready for living; North of Yanyuncun, Chaoyang District, developed by Jinma Changcheng Development Co. Current price \$1700 /m². Phone 64933636.

③Sunny Apartments (阳明国际公寓), ready for living; East of Xiaoying Road, Chaoyang District, developed by Tongyuan Real Estate Development Co. Current price 7,180 yuan /m². Phone 64920399/1190.

East: ④Hongyuan Apartment (宏源公寓), ready for living; Southeast of Jiuxiangqiao North Road, Chaoyang District, developed by Hongyuan Real Estate Development Co. Current price 6,900 yuan /m². Phone 64383169, 64358885, 64358886/85.

⑤Star City (Xingcheng Guoji, 星城国

际中心), available for living on 09/2002; Southwest of Dashanzi Huandao, Jiuxiangqiao, Chaoyang District, developed by Xingcheng Zhiye Property Co. Current price 7,800 yuan /m². Phone 64388888.

⑥Sun Crest I & II (Chaoyangyuan, 朝阳园I & II), ready for living; 25 Nanli, Ganluyuan, (North of Chaoyang Park) Chaoyang District, developed by Beijing Lihui Real Estate Development Co. Current price 7,788 - 8,500 yuan /m². Phone 85770668, 85777099.

⑦Sunny Uptown (阳光曼哈顿) ready for living; Northwest of Yangzha Huandao, Guanzhuang, Chaoyang District, developed by Huayuan Property Co. Current price 4,800 yuan /m². Phone 65723191/2/3/5.

Yangguang Huayuan (阳光华苑\阳光曼哈顿II), ready for living; Northwest of Yangzha Huandao, Guanzhuang, Chaoyang District, developed by Huayuan Property Co. Current price 4,580 yuan /m². Phone 65700193/4/5.

South: ⑧Ideal House (Yidong Yangfang, 一栋洋房), available for living on 12/2001; Beijing Economic Development Zone, Chaoyang District, developed by Beijing Yilin Real Estate Development Co. Current price 5,800 yuan /m². Phone 67870006/7/8/9.

The above data is provided in part by C.B.Consulting.



Orange County



Kangkeng (Cannes)



Ideal House



Xinxin Xiaozhen



Times Manor

Musics

Pipa recital by Luan Yue

The first ever recital that mixes Pipa with midi electronic music. Where: Beijing Concert Hall, 1 Beixinhuajie Liubukou West Chang'an Avenue. Bus 7 to Liubukou (六部口). When: Friday, June 15, 7:30 pm. Admission: 20-200 yuan Tel: 66057006



Stairway to Music 2001 series - All Mozart Program Where: the Forbidden City Concert Hall, Zhongshan Park. When: June 16, 2:00 pm. Admission: 10/20/30 yuan Tel: 65598294

Du Taihang Piano Concert Piano: Du Taihang China Philharmonic Orchestra. Conductor: Yang Yang. Where: Beijing Concert Hall, 1 Beixinhuajie Li-

ubukou West Chang'an Avenue. Bus 7 to Liubukou. When: June 16, 7:00 pm Admission: 30 - 280 yuan Tel: 66057006

The Same Song - Symphonic concert of Chinese pop songs China Film Symphony Orchestra. Conductor: Fan Tao. Where: Beijing Concert Hall, 1 Beixinhuajie Liubukou West Chang'an Avenue. Bus 7 to Liubukou. When: June 22, 7:30pm. Admission: 50-289 yuan. Tel: 66057006

Percussion troupe Tokobi from Korea A humorous performance, full of the colors and features of Korea. Where: Minzong Theatre (民族剧院), Minzu Hotel, West Chang'an Avenue, Xicheng District. When: June 15 - 17, 7:30 pm. Admission: 80-300 yuan. Tel: 66059881

Music in Get Lucky Bar (豪运酒吧). Mirage, Hot Fire, Happy Street on Friday, Meng Record Festival Saturday. Where:

500m east of Jingmao University (经贸大学), near the south gate of Taiyanggong, Chaoyang District. When: Friday, Saturday, June 15, 16, 9:00pm. Tel: 64299109



All Tomorrow's Parties -- Cheese Party In Velvet Room. Organized by two Swedes, Michael & Dala Bass and one Chinese, You Dai. DJs: Yang Bing, You Dai. Where: the Velvet Room, Liangmahe South Road, south side of Capital Mansion (京城大厦). When: Friday, June 15, 10pm. Admission: 50 yuan. Tel: 64609356

Performances

English Drama-The Mill on the Floss Based on the novel by George Eliot and performed by the troupe 'Shared Experience'. It will be performed in English with Chinese subtitles. Where: China Children's Theatre, 4 Dong'an men Dajie (东安门大街) Dongcheng District Bus



103, 104, 108 to Dong'an Shichang (东安市场). When: June 20 - 23, 7:00 pm. Admission: 80 - 280 yuan. Tel: 65241831

Drama: Ecological Department, cat, Kazi Jun A family story set in Japan, about life, death and family. Where: Experimental Small Theatre of the Central Institute of Drama (中戏实验小剧场). When: till June 17, 7:15 pm Admission: Free Tel: 64013958

David Copperfield's Great Magic Show He's really the greatest magician in the word. He once made the Statue of Liberty disappear from New York city and fly across the



Great Wall in China; he used to make his audience disappear and the reappear in another place. David Copperfield's magic is well-known for its distinctiveness and creativeness. Where: Capital Gymnasium (首都体育馆), 54, Baishiqialou (白石桥路), Haidian District, bus 103, 107, 332 to Beijing Zoo. When: Jun.17-22, 7:30pm. Tel: 68335552-8225

Movies

Movie from Denmark-Mifunes Sidsle Sang Director: DOGME 3, 1999 98m. Where: Sculpting In Time, 15 Chengfujie (成府街) Haidian District. When: Tuesday, Thursday, June 19, 21, 7:30 pm. Tel: 62521746

German Movie-Fitzcarraldo Director: Werner Herzog, 1982. Where: Box Cafe, 5 Xiwangzhuang Xiaogu (西王庄小区), opposite Tsinghua Tongfang Mansion, Bus 375 to east gate of Tsinghua University. When: Saturday, June 16, 7:30pm Admission: 5 yuan, including one beverage. Tel: 62791280

Sports & Activities

Cliff-climbing This is one of the most advanced cliff-climbing halls in Beijing. Each week there are many competitions here. Where: B3 floor, Xidan Cultural Plaza (西单文化广场), bus 1, 4, 57 to Xidan. When: 9am-10pm. Tel: 66063283

Zong Zi Festival at Hilton Hotel Sample some delicious vine leaf wrapped sticky rice delicacies. Where: Sui Yuan restaurant (随园餐厅), Hilton Hotel. When: June 15-25 Tel: 64662288-7416

Shopping Festival in Dashalar (大栅栏). When: Now- July 1

Weather

WEEKEND

Saturday, 15, June
Overcast/ cloudy, showers
Max: 25C.
Min: 19C.

Sunday, 16, June
Overcast to cloudy
Max: 27C.
Min: 18C.

NEXT WEEK

Monday, 17, June
Cloudy/ clear
Max: 30C. Min: 20C.

Tuesday, 18, June
Clear/ cloudy
Max: 32C.
Min: 21C.



Wednesday, 19, June
Clear to cloudy
Max: 32C.
Min: 23C.



Thursday, 20, June
Cloudy
Max: 29C.
Min: 23C.



Friday, 21, June
Cloudy to overcast, showers
Max: 28C.
Min: 19C.



Saturday, June 15
Be influenced by cold air, easy for dispersion of suspended particles.
Sunday, June 16
No wind, no much influence on dispersion of suspended particles.



Exhibitions

The Scientific Achievements of Space Navigation. The exhibition from the High-tech International Week. Where: Ao ti Zhongxin (奥体中心) Olympic Sports Center, Bus 108 387 to Ao Ti Zhongxin. When: Now - August 31, 8:30 am-6:00 pm Admission: 80 yuan, 60 for students, 120 yuan for one adult & one child, 170 yuan for two adults and one child. Tel: 64910919



Mystery of Mayan Culture Where did Mayan culture come? Why did the 4000-year Mayan culture disappear? Here each simple artifact tells the mysterious people living thou-

sands of years ago. Go and discover the secrets yourself! Where: the China Millennium Monument (中华世纪坛), Jia 6 Fuxing Lu, Haidian District, bus 320, 1, 4, 337 to China Military Museum. When: Now-August 31. Tel: 68513322

Mustard Seed Garden

(芥子园). Zhang Hui: environmental installation. Zhang Qianqian: Photos. Anqi: Movie: The Wind is very Heavy in Beijing. Where: Fei Jia Cun (费家村), Laiguang Dong Lu, go west at the traffic lights and continue past the new Western Academy of Beijing & Jenny Lou's Shop. When: Now- June 26, 10:00 am - 5:00 pm (closed Mondays). Tel: 13301070144

Xiao Hong's Oil Paintings at Qin Gallery (秦昊画廊) The contents cover the figures of frescoes and historical stories. Where: 38 A Fangcaodi Beijie, Chaoyang District. When: Now - June 22. Tel: 65074062

Toys from Czechoslovakia Some 500 items are on exhibition. Where: Yanhuang Art Gallery (炎黄艺术馆), 9 Hui-zhong Lu Yayuncun, Chaoyang District. When: Now - June 19, 8:30 am - 4:30 pm. Admission:

5 yuan. Tel: 64912902
Historic relics of Tibetan Buddhism in the Forbidden City If you visit the Forbidden City, you can see this exhibition for free. Where: Feng Xian Dian (奉先殿), Forbidden City. When: Now - August 15. Tel: 65132255



Sculptures of Louis Durot

He is a modern sculptor in France. And this time over 30 pieces of sculptures will be on exhibition. Where: Red Gate Gallery, Levels 1& 4, Dongbianmen Watchtower (东便门角楼), Chongwen District. When: June 21-July 4, 10am-5pm. Admission: 5 yuan. Tel: 65251005

By Jiao Pei / Li Dan
We are glad to receive your feedback.
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Dongcheng District
东城区东中街 29 号东环广场 B 幢 3 层
11:00-14:30, 17:00-22:00
6856.9388

Beijing Roast Duck
北京烤鸭店

Building 3, Tuanjie Lake, Chaoyang District
朝阳区团结湖北口 3 号楼
11:40-14:00, 17:00-21:30
6852.4003

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Paragliding: A Cure for Cowardice

by Wenlong

Up, up, God, please! No, I can't control it. Help me! Waking up with a start, I was very much relieved to find that I was safe in my bed, and the dream about losing control of my paraglider and plunging towards the earth was nothing more than a dream. Paraglider! I grabbed the alarm clock: 7:24. I was supposed to be at the gliding club at 8 sharp to begin my paragliding training course!

I hurriedly pulled on my clothes. No time to wash my face, no matter, I'm not the

kind of person that has ever stood out in a crowd. But what I was going to do today would change this poor situation. After all, no more than 300 people in Beijing have the courage to fly solo.

I looked at the sky through the taxi window; a little cloudy, but no strong wind. With the help of the crazy driver, swerving in and out of the traffic in a hair-raising manner, I got to the club 10 minutes early. Just as I collapsed panting on the sofa, in came Mikael Widing. Tall and thin Mikael is from Sweden, the country of skiing and football. He is a dedicated fan of paragliding, as is evident by the fact that he lugged his huge glider bag with him all the way from Sweden.

The most dangerous thing is getting to the mountain!

We started out for the gliding base at Changping, at 8:00 in a Mitsubishi Pajero. "Is this your first time to fly?" Mikael asked me. "Yes, and I am a little nervous. Do you think it is quite safe in the air?" "Definitely! Like in an airplane, taking off and landing can be a little risky. But I can tell you the most dangerous thing is getting to the mountain. These drivers are too bad. They keep too close to you and swerve around all over the road." He was right. When we left the expressway, things got worse. Once a paper drink box hit our windshield, thrown by a woman in a Honda. Mikael gave me a wry smile.

As we'd started quite early in the morning, we didn't meet with much congestion, and the scenery soon changed from apartment buildings to apple trees and tall poplars as we headed to the base. Our 40-minute trip ended as we pulled up beside a two-story build-

ing, and Mikael said to me "Here we are, your first step to the sky".

The next most dangerous thing is getting started!

The base is just ten minutes walk from the landing area, while the starting mountain was still another 40 minutes drive away. People there told me that at 4 am this morning, some club members and instructors had left for the mountain and would be back in an hour. I decided to go for a walk around the base.

The base is located on a hill in the Fengshan Resort. There are three rooms, each with five to eight beds. Though there is no air-conditioning, the rooms didn't feel hot. Each room has a TV set, a videotape player, VCD, and a water cooler. The base also had several mascots, I discovered; nine wild geese and a litter of newborn puppies. The housekeeper explained that the wild geese were going to be trained to follow the hang gliders. They were orphans, she said. "If we hadn't happened to find them, there would surely have starved to death".

The sound of a car engine led me to meet my instructor, Zhang Wei, a swarthy middle-aged fellow. "Let's move to the mountain," he said. Before we started, he handed me a paraglider. On the way, Zhang explained the glider to me. A paraglider is quite different from a parachute. When you use a parachute, you keep your body straight and just fall to the ground at a safe speed, while gilding allows you to sit in the air and control the direction and speed yourself. It's more like flying. If the weather permits, you can fly in the air for three to four hours". "Today your course will be kite flying, I mean, you fly the glider in the air like a kite". "What! I thought I was going to



Picture by Li Yue

The places in the map can be easily reached:

Nankou Xiaoshan (南口小山), Changping District; Baihuashan (百花山), Mentougou District; Kangxi Grassland (康西草原); Simatai Great Wall (司马台长城); Fangshan (房山) Fangshan District

fly today! I answered disappointedly. "That depends on how well you learn", Zhang said. After we got to the top of the mountain, he showed me how to open the glider, and how to control the cord to let the glider fully open. Then he said, "If you can fly the glider 20 times today, I will let you fly". Without another word, he turned to the other beginners to help them take off.

Mikael couldn't wait any more. While Zhang and I were talking, he had spread his glider on the ground, donned his gloves, helmet and intercom and was waiting impatiently for Zhang's order to take off. After Zhang contacted the landing area, he checked Mikael's ropes and cord and patted him on the shoulder: "Good luck. Go!" Mikael first flew the glider open, then ran down the mountain. The glider pulled him off the ground and he was lifted up about five or six meters. Then suddenly, he turned sharply down to his left and fell into the trees. I was shocked, standing there open mouthed for

a moment, then I ran towards where he had fallen. "Are you ok? Mikael?" "Yeah, I am ok! But I'm angry with myself!" "The next most dangerous thing is getting started". I said to him.

Nothing will be safe enough if you are a coward.

While we were helping Mikael, several of the trainees took off. I asked Mikael what had caused him to fall, he replied that it was partly stupidity and partly bad luck. "But nothing will be safe enough if you are a coward. Watch my next turn!"

This time he succeeded, staying in the air for half an hour. I asked Zhang if there were many other places suitable for taking off. He said, "Any mountain with a plain area would be fine. --". "Can we take off from the Great Wall?" "Of course." He then listed a number of places around Beijing that can be used for gliding, which are shown on the map.

"Can I try it out today?" I asked, "No. But you can fly along with me." "Hooray," I jumped with exhilaration.

Ready for Paragliding?

Gliders can be classified in three types, according to the shape and size of the wing; sailplane, delta wing glider and paraglider. Sailplanes look much like a real plane and can only take off from the airfield pulled by another plane. After reaching the desired altitude, the sailplane drops the cable connecting it to the powered plane and flies alone. This kind of glider is relatively expensive, and the fee for the airfield and for the towing plane makes it even more so. Compared with sailplanes, delta wing and paragliders are cheaper and far more popular. A basic paraglider will cost no more than 25,000 yuan and both kinds are easy to learn and allow you to feel the absolute freedom of the engineless flight.

This sport originated in the Alps in the late 1970s and came to China relatively early, compared with other western sports. Nowadays there are five gliding in Beijing. The training fee at each club is the same, 1,500 yuan. You can also fly one time with an instructor if you are willing to pay 300 yuan. After training in any one these clubs, you can apply for a certificate issued by the State

Physical Cultural Administration and become a registered professional glider.

If you do not suffer from heart disease or high blood pressure, and are not afraid of heights, you can enjoy the pleasures of this exciting sport. It requires more skill and courage, than strength and fast reflexes, and anyone can do it well after taking a training course.

The following three clubs have very good reputations, and the instructors can speak some English.

Beijing International United Flight (华联航空俱乐部)
Add: 8 Huayuan Donglu, Haidian District (Beside Zhixin Bridge) Tel: 82086340/41

Superwing Paragliding Club (大羽滑翔伞俱乐部)

Add: B2, Yingdong Swimming Pool, Olympic Center, Chaoyang District (奥体中心英东游泳馆) Tel: 64912233 ext. 302

Flying-man Paragliding Club (飞人天地滑翔伞俱乐部)
Add: 245, Beisihuan (North Fourth Ring road) Zhonglu, Haidian District

Tel: 62344230



China Aviation Museum



If you can fly 8 miles southeast from the above base, you may encounter real planes in China Aviation Museum. Opened to the public in 1989, this is the largest aviation museum in Asia. It displays 263 aircraft, surface-to-air missiles, air-defense weaponry and radar, bombs, aerial cameras and some 700 examples of military equipment. Some artifacts qualify as state relics and official treasures of world aviation.

Highlights for visitors include the chance to sit in the aircraft regularly used by Chairman Mao and Premier Zhou Enlai. Also on view is the same type of plane in which deputy chairman Lin Biao crashed en route to Mongolia.

The Exhibition Hangar houses 88 aircraft of various type and size. They include a Rosamonde, named after the English name of Song Qingling, wife of Sun Yat-sen. Visitors can also see the Y-5 aircraft from which premier Zhou's ashes were scattered in 1976, and a replica of an AH-64 Apache Helicopter.

China Aviation Museum: Datangshan, Changping Open: 8:30 am - 5 pm.

Admission: 35 yuan.

Bus 912 from Andingmen Subway Station. Tel: 61784882\83